

Swinburne, Henry, (1743-1803

**Picturesque tour through Spain : embellished with
twenty engravings / by Henry Swinburne**

London : Edward Orme, etc., 1806

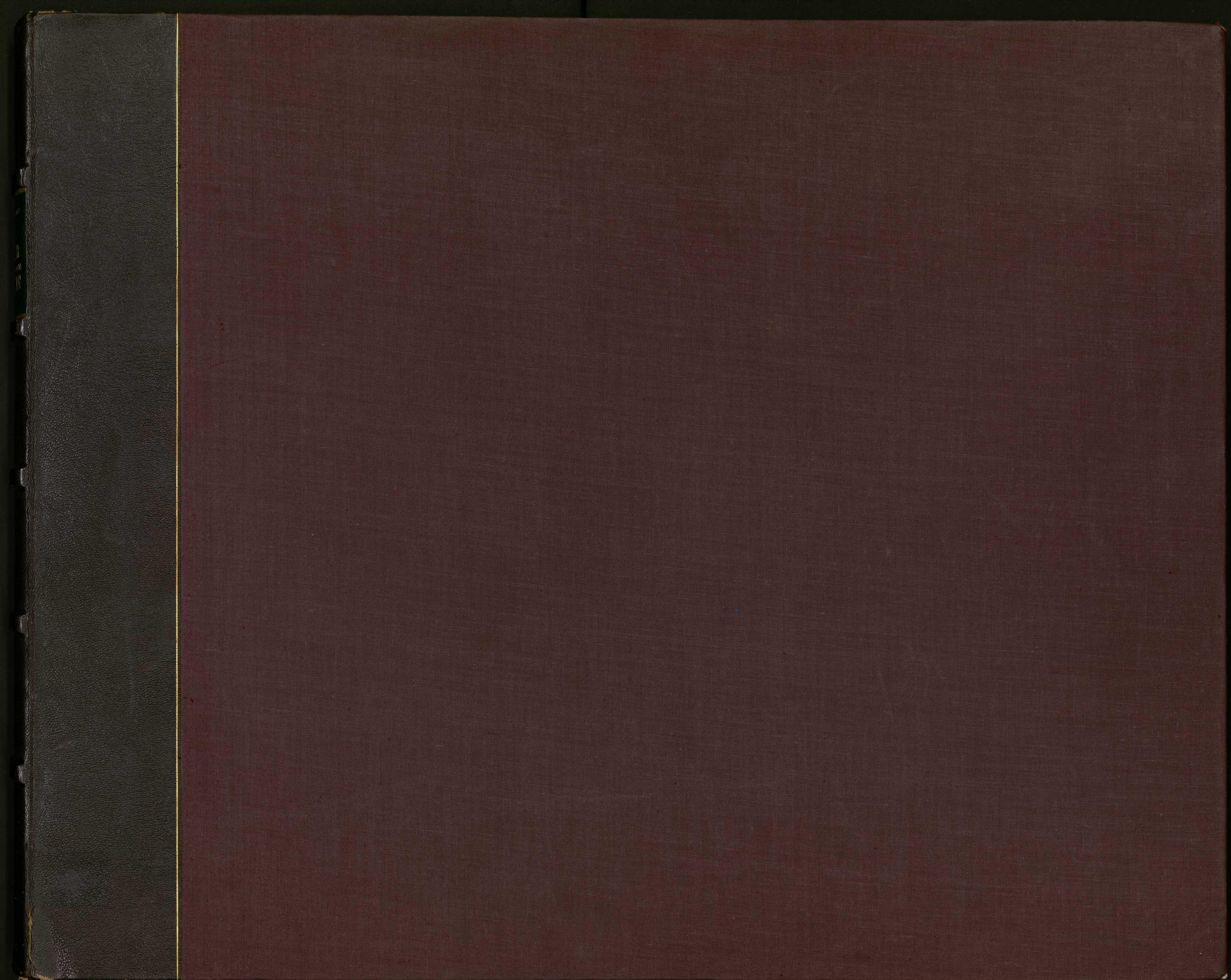
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Picturesque
Tour through Spain
BY
HENRY SWINBURNE ESQ^R



London. Published July 1. 1868. By John Scott. 442 Strand.

P I C T U R E S Q U E T O U R

THROUGH

SPAIN,

BY

HENRY SWINBURNE, Esq.

EMBELLISHED WITH

TWENTY ENGRAVINGS,

BY

WATTS, MEDLAND, ANGUS, MITAN, &c.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR, PUBLISHED AND SOLD BY EDWARD ORME, BOND-STREET, THE CORNER OF BROOK-STREET; SOLD ALSO BY LONGMAN, HURST, REES, AND ORME, PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1806.

J. G. BARNARD, PRINTER, 57, SNOW-HILL



PICTURE TOUR

THROUGH

THE GREAT MONUMENTS

SPAIN

HENRY RICHARD FOX, LORD HOLLAND, &c. &c.

BY

HENRY SWINBURNE, Esq.

—

PICTURESQUE TOUR THROUGH SPAIN

TWENTY ENGRAVINGS

AS THEY APPEAR IN THE ORIGINAL DRAWINGS

BY

WILLIAM WATTS, M.A., &c.

—

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY EDWARD GRIFFITHS, THE CORNER OF BROAD STREET, SOLE AGENT FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1800

—

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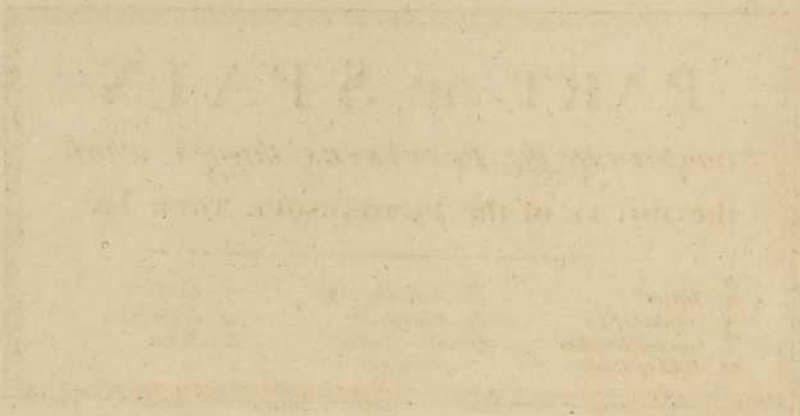
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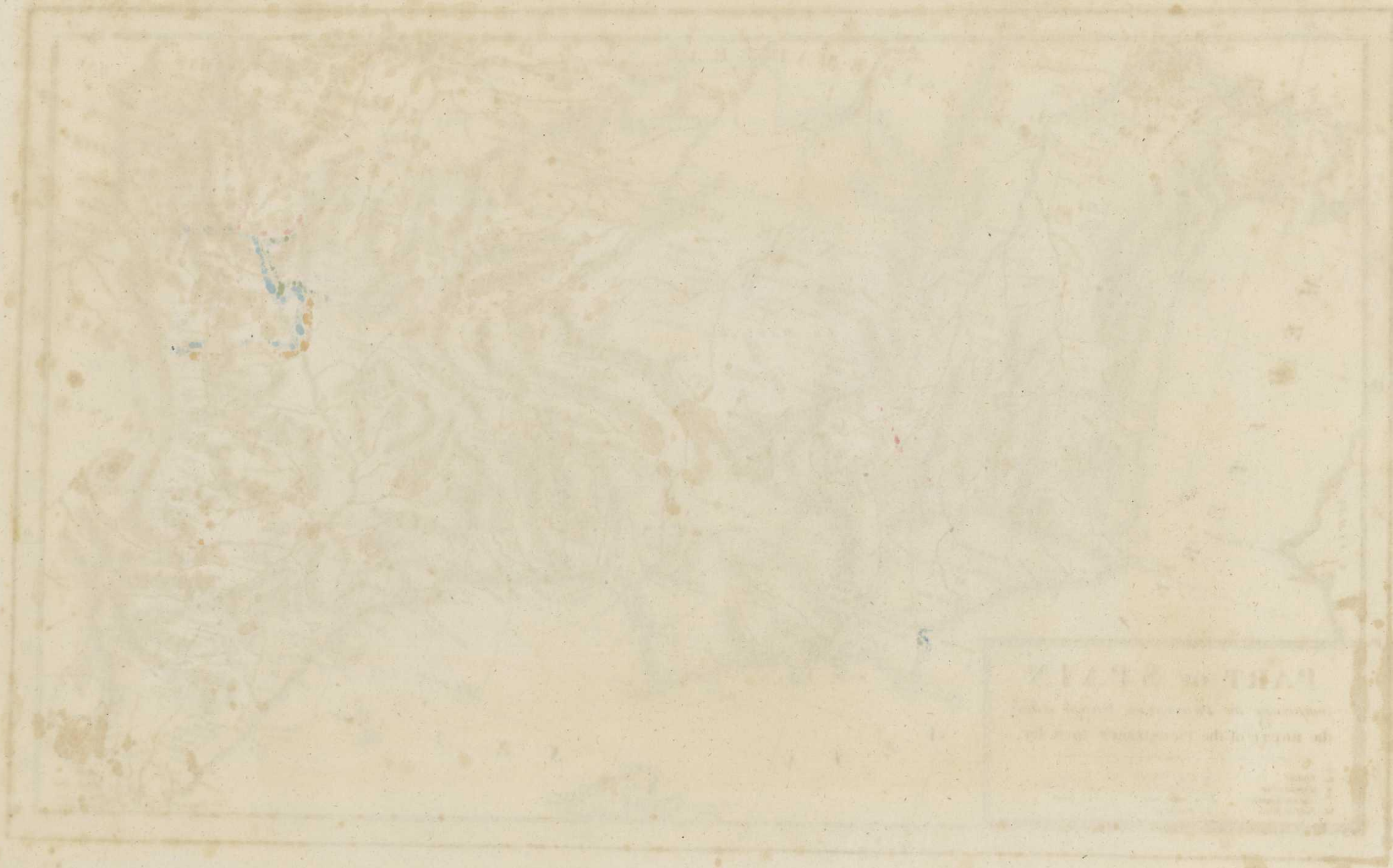
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H. Swinburne del.

A. Humann sculp.

BURGOS

London. Published June 20. 1806. by Edm^d Orme, Bond Street.

BURGOS, *IN OLD CASTILLE.*

NUNO BELCHIDES, a German, having in the tenth century married the daughter of the Earl of Castille, collected the neighbouring people from their scattered habitations, and built a city, which, from a word in his native tongue, he called Burg. It soon rose to be the capital of the country, the residence of the Earls, and afterwards of the Kings of Castille.

Burgos is built on the slope and at the foot of a steep hill, of which the summit is covered with a large ruinous castle. The little river Alarcon flows below. Half-way up the ascent stands the cathedral, a most magnificent Gothic pile, extremely ornamented with spires, statues, and fret-work. There are some large squares in the level part of the town, and some avenues of trees near the river, but the plain is quite bare. At a small distance is the abbey of Las Huelgas, one of the richest nunneries in Europe, founded in 1209. On the hill opposite Burgos is the beautiful church of the Carthusians.

BURGOS.

DANS le dixième siècle Belchide, noble Allemand, épousa la fille du Comte de Castille, et rassembla les peuples épars de la contrée, dans une ville murée qu'il nomma Burg du mot Allemand qui signifie ville. Dans peu Burgos devint la capitale du pays et la résidence premièrement des Comtes, et ensuite des Rois de Castille.

Quand les Chrétiens eurent repoussé les Mores vers l'Afrique, les Rois Castillans s'établirent dans des villes plus méridionales.

Burgos est bâti en partie sur le penchant d'une colline et en partie dans la plaine, sur les bords de l'Alarcon. Au sommet on voit les ruines du château, à mi-cote se trouve la cathédrale, superbe édifice Gothique et richement décoré. Les rues sont tortueuses et étroites mais dans la basse ville il y a quelques belles places. Dans la plaine, qui est vaste et nue, on admire le grand hôpital et l'Abbaie de Las Huelgas, un des plus riches couvens de filles en Europe. Sur le joli coteau, qui est en face de la ville et à l'entrée des gorges des montagnes est placée la belle église des Chartreux.

BURGOS
IN OLD CASTILE

From the north, the city of Burgos is approached by a long and straight road, which, for many miles, is the only one of the kind in the north of Spain. The road is wide and well kept, and the scenery is beautiful. The city is situated on a hill, and the view from the top is magnificent. The city is a fine example of the architecture of the Middle Ages, and the castle is a masterpiece of the art. The city is a fine example of the architecture of the Middle Ages, and the castle is a masterpiece of the art.

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H. Swinburne del.

J. Thumann sculp.

VALE of MARGAL.

London. Published June. 20. 1806. by Edw. & Orme Bond. Street.

THE VALE OF MARGAL,
IN VALENCIA.

THIS is one of the delicious Vales that render a journey along the coast of Valencia so pleasing. The sea breeze and the shade of the bushy Carob-bean trees refresh the weary traveller, while he is charmed with a variety of picturesque objects, and regaled with the odours of aromatic plants. The watch-towers placed at regular intervals enliven the prospect.

LA VALLÉE DE MARGAL,
AU ROYAUME DE VALENCE.

C'EST ici une de ces Plaines délicieuses, qui rendent le voyage de la côte de Valence si agréable, et qui en font oublier tous les inconveniens: l'œil est charmé par mille objets pittoresques et intéressans; l'odorat est flatté par une variété de parfums qu'exhalent les plantes aromatiques; d'épais Caroubiers offrent au voyageur un ombrage impénétrable, où il peut jouir à loisir des vents rafraichissans qui viennent de la mer.

THE VALE OF MARGAL

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This is one of the boldest and most beautiful views of the Vale of Margal. The hills are covered with the most luxuriant vegetation, and the water is of a deep blue color. The scene is truly magnificent.

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H. Swinburne del.

Ellis sculp.

BRIDGE at PERPIGNAN.

London Published June 20. 1866. by Edw. & Orme Bond Street.

THE BRIDGE OF PERPIGNAN, *IN ROUSSILLON.*

THIS Bridge over the Tet leads to the north gate of Perpignan, a strong, fortified city near the frontiers of Spain, and capital of the province of Rouffillon.

Perpignan was built in the eleventh century by Earl Guignard, not far from the ruins of Elna, an ancient city, and, according to Mariana, took its name from a man who kept an inn on the spot. It stands on a gentle eminence, overlooking an immense plain bounded on two sides by the Mediterranean, and on the others by the Pyrenean mountains, among which the Canigout rears its head, being elevated 9217 feet above the level of the sea.

LE PONT DE PERPIGNAN.

CE Pont traverse le Tet et conduit à la porte septentrionale de Perpignan, ville forte et frontière, capitale du Rouffillon. Nous apprenons de Mariana que le Comte Guignard la fit bâtir en 1068, et lui donna le nom d'un fameux aubergiste.

Sa situation est élevée au-dessus d'une belle plaine, bornée au nord et à l'est par la mer, et au sud et à l'ouest par les monts Pyrénées. Le Canigout les surpasse tous en hauteur; les académiciens lui ont trouvé 1441 toises d'élévation au-dessus du niveau de la Méditerranée.





H. Invinburne del.

Ellis sculp.

SEVILLE

London Published June 20, 1806, by Edw^d Orme Bond Street.

SEVILLE IN ANDALUSIA,

FROM THE PLATFORM OF ST. JUAN DE ALFARACHE.

SEVILLE (anciently Hispalis) existed in very remote ages. The Romans planted a colony here, and called it Colonia Romula. The Moorish conquerors of Spain made it the capital of one of their kingdoms. Ferdinand the Third took it from them.

After the discovery of America this became the emporium for the productions of the new world; but the difficult navigation of its river caused the staple to be removed to Cadiz.

Seville is large and circular, situate on the eastern bank of the Guadalquivir (the ancient Bœtis), over which a bridge of boats joins it to the suburb of Triana, where the Inquisition holds its odious tribunal in a gloomy castle. The streets are narrow; the houses large, but dark; the churches numerous and splendid. The cathedral, with its Moorish steeple, towers above the rest. The snuff manufactory appears on the right hand, and below it the Alcazar, or royal palace, with its oriental gardens. The city wall terminates at the river by a tower called Golden, from its excellent workmanship.

The Guadalquivir has depth sufficient for vessels of considerable burden; its waters are muddy, and flow through fertile meadows intersected by groves of orange trees.

The hills are planted with olive trees. On one of them stands the church of St. Juan, built after the Moorish manner, amidst the ruins of an extensive fortress, where the Moors took refuge when driven out of Seville. This was the site of an ancient city called Offet.

VUE DE SÉVILLE EN ANDALOUSIE,

PRISE DE LA TERRASSE DE ST. JEAN D'ALFARACHE.

SEVILLE existoit dans des siècles fort reculés, sous le nom d'Hispalis. Les Romains y fondèrent une colonie qu'ils appelèrent Colonia Romula. Les Maures en firent la capitale d'un des royaumes qu'ils établirent en Espagne. Ferdinand III. la prit sur eux.

Après la découverte du nouveau monde, Séville devint l'entrepôt de ses richesses, mais les difficultés de la navigation du Guadalquivir le firent transférer à Cadiz.

Seville est de forme circulaire, fort étendue, située sur la rive orientale du Guadalquivir (l'ancienne Bœtis), qui coule dans une plaine très fertile, partagée en prairies et en bois d'orangers superbes. Un pont de bateaux sert de communication avec le fauxbourg de Triana, qui n'a de remarquable que les noires tours du saint office. Les rues de la ville sont en général étroites; les maisons vastes et sombres. Les églises riches et nombreuses mais de mauvais goût. La Cathédrale et son clocher Moreſque s'élèvent au-dessus de tous les autres édifices. A droite on voit la manufacture de tabac, le vieux palais des rois avec ses jardins à l'orientale, et la Tour d'Or qui termine les murs de la ville sur les bords du fleuve.

Sur une des collines plantées d'oliviers, qui bordent cette vaste plaine se trouve l'église de St. Jean au milieu des décombres d'un château des Mores, et sur l'emplacement d'Offet, ville dont il est parlé dans l'histoire Romaine.





H. Inverturne del.

Pollard sculp.

DUENAS.

London Published, June 20. 1806, by Edw^d Orme Bond Street.

DUENAS,
IN OLD CASTILLE.

DUENAS is a small town on the Puiferga. The surrounding hills produce tolerable wine. From the frequency of villages and ruined castles the country, though destitute of wood, has a pleasant appearance.

Above the town is an ancient church, adorned with jasper and marble, which, as we learn by an inscription, was finished in 661 by King Receswinthus the Goth.—The inn is without the walls.

DUENAS,
DANS LA VIEILLE CASTILLE.

DUENAS est une ville sur la Puiferga, environnée de coteaux plantés de vignes. Le pays quoique dépourvu d'arbres a cependant un air riant à cause du grand nombre de villages et de châteaux ruinés qui bordent la rivière.

Pres de la ville on voit une très ancienne église, ornée de jaspes et de marbres. Une longue inscription nous apprend qu'elle fût achevée en 661 par le Roi Recesvinde.—L'auberge est dans la campagne hors des murs.

DUNN IN OLD COUNTRY

Dunn is a small town in the county of ...
The town is situated in the ...
The town is situated in the ...

Dunn is a small town in the county of ...
The town is situated in the ...
The town is situated in the ...





H. Swinburne del.

Angus sculp.

GRANADA.

London Published June 20. 1806. by Edw. & Orms. Bond Street.

GRANADA.

AFTER toiling through dangerous roads and over bleak mountains the weary traveller comes at last by a narrow defile to the verge of the plain of Granada; his spirits revive as he advances from the foot of the mountain into the cultivated grounds; a noble expanse of fertile fields opens before him, and the domes and turrets of the city of Granada rise along the horizon; on the left the majestic towers of the Moorish palace crown the hill, backed by the white summits of the Sierra Nevada, and to the right the view is bounded by the woods of the Soto and the lofty Sierra Elvira.

Granada stands upon or near the site of the ancient Illiberis; with the rest of the southern provinces of Spain, this country fell into the hands of the Africans, who established in Granada one of their kingdoms, and this was the last reconquered by the Christians. In January 1492, after a long war and an obstinate defence, Abouabdallah the last king surrendered Granada to Ferdinand and Isabella. The greatest part of its inhabitants retired out of the country, and their possessions were occupied by a colony of Castilians and Aragonians; at that moment the spirit of industry fled, agriculture was neglected, barrenness and depopulation spread over the once fruitful mountain, and even the productions of the vale were no longer poured forth in their wonted abundance.

The situation of Granada is most beautiful; its buildings cover a sloping knoll at the confluence of the Dauro and Xenil, and then extend themselves in a waving outline into the plain, where they are gradually lost among the trees. The valley of the Dauro is narrow, woody, and romantic; the Xenil skirts the plain, and rolls through a more expanded landscape: the Alameda or public walk upon its banks, affords a magnificent view of the city and its environs.

Granada is very large, and still populous, considering its inland position, and the neglect with which its husbandry and commerce are treated, the number of inhabitants exceeding fifty thousand. This population is the consequence of the archiepiscopal residence, the chapters, and the court of chancery, which draw together a swarm of priests and lawyers. Except the Rambla, most of the streets are narrow and dirty, the houses Moorish and plain. The churches ornamented with a great profusion of marbles, but in a bad style; the cathedral is a vast pile, most lavishly enriched with every decoration an injudicious architect could imagine, but with few that would please an eye accustomed to the works of the ancients or of the great Italian masters: its high altar deserves to be excepted from this general censure. The tombs of Ferdinand, Isabella, their son in law Philip, and daughter Joan, are magnificent specimens of the sculpture of the age.

G R E N A D E.

APRÈS une longue route par des chemins affreux et des montagnes arides et escarpées, le voyageur épuisé sent renaître son courage à l'entrée de la superbe plaine de Grenade : la nature qu'il n'avoit vûe depuis si longtems que sous les haillons de la stérilité et de l'abandon, paroît se revêtir pour lui de ses plus riches atours ; devant lui s'ouvre un amphitheatre immense de campagnes fertiles, bornées à l'horison par les tours de Grenade et de son château, par les bois du Soto et les montagnes des Alpuxaras dont les sommets couverts de neige font un agréable contraste avec la verdure des côteaux.

La ville de Grenade occupe le site d'Illiberis, ville connue du tems des Romains. Les conquérans Africains en firent la capitale d'un de leurs royaumes, et ce fût le dernier qui succomba sous la puissance des princes Chrétiens ; ce ne fût qu'en 1492 et après une défense opiniâtre qu'Abouabdallah son dernier roi en rendit les clefs à Ferdinand et à Isabelle. La plus grande partie des Mahométans quitterent le país, et leurs biens devinrent la récompense des vainqueurs ; dès lors l'industrie disparût, l'agriculture tomba dans le discredit, les parties montagneuses du royaume se dépeuplèrent et devinrent incultes ; les vallées mêmes ne versèrent plus leurs productions avec la même abondance.

Cette ville est admirablement bien située, en partie sur les collines au confluent du Dauro et du Xenil et en partie dans la plaine, où les bâtimens s'étendent au loin d'une manière très pittoresque et se perdent insensiblement dans les vergers. Le Dauro descend par un vallon étroit agréablement couvert de bois ; le Xenil roule entre le côteau et la plaine et ses bords offrent mille points de vûe intéressans.

Grenade est très étendue et bien mieux peuplée qu'elle ne devoit être, attendu sa position dans l'intérieur des terres et la décadence de son commerce : on fait monter sa population à cinquante mille âmes ; la plus grande partie est attirée par les cours ecclésiastiques et la Chancellerie qui donnent du pain à un nombre considérable de gens de robe, en l'otant à un plus grand nombre encore de plaideurs. Les rues sont étroites et sales, les maisons sans apparence en dehors et bâties à la mauresque ; la Rambla est une rue superbe. Les églises sont surchargées d'ornemens d'un mauvais style ; la cathédrale est une masse informe ornée avec profusion de tout ce que des architectes d'un goût faux et d'une imagination déréglée ont pu y entasser ; un homme capable d'apprécier le vrai beau et accoutumé à l'architecture des anciens et des bons maîtres Italiens trouvera ici peu de chose à louer ; le maître autel mérite d'être exceptée de la censure. Les tombeaux de Ferdinand le Catholique, d'Isabelle, de Philippe le Bel d'Autriche et de Jeanne la folle sa femme font de beaux monumens de la sculpture du dixième siècle.



H. Swinburne del.

T. Mallard sculp.

MIRANDA DEL EBRO.

London Published June 20. 1806. by Edw. Orme Bond Street.

MIRANDA DEL EBRO.

As soon as the traveller has passed the defile of the Sierra del Oca, a view opens upon him to the north over the fertile and extensive plains that are watered by the Ebro. The country is very much elevated above the level of the sea, but no particular eminences distinguish themselves for their height. Westward a mountainous chain about fifty miles distant marks the springs of the river, which at Miranda is already swollen to a respectable magnitude, and frequently commits furious ravages in the plain: in its milder state, the waters are limpid, and their course beautiful. The soil near its banks is a rich loam, productive of various sorts of grain; oats, which are rather a rarity farther south, cover a considerable portion of the arable land.

Miranda stands on the southern bank, overshadowed by hills and the romantic ruins of a spacious castle: there is nothing in the buildings of the town worthy of notice, except the square or market place, which is adorned with fountains of excellent water: the inhabitants are about one thousand four hundred in number, who, from the advantages of their situation on so fine a river, with fields abounding in corn, and hills productive of good wine, might carry on a very beneficial commerce, if they possessed an active spirit of industry, or if government gave them proper encouragement to exert it. The bridge was swept away by the floods in 1775, and its ruins now only add another feature to the beautiful landscape.

MIRANDA DE L'EBRE.

Aussitôt que le voyageur sort des défilés de Pancorbo, il voit s'étendre devant lui une plaine immense arrosée par l'Ebre, qui à vingt lieues de sa source se montre déjà formidable par sa largeur et par ses inondations: dans la saison des pluies ses eaux défont ces riches campagnes. Ce pays est fort élevé au-dessus du niveau de la mer, mais assez plat: on n'y voit point de montagnes fort au-dessus du niveau général: à l'ouest paraît une chaîne assez haute qui marque les sources du fleuve. Le terrain des deux bords est très fertile en grain surtout en avoine qui est rare plus avant en Espagne. Les coteaux au sud produisent un vin qui a de la réputation. Le bourg de Miranda est très agréablement situé en pente sur la rive droite de l'Ebre, qu'on traversoit cy-devant sur un pont de pierre, mais depuis 1775 on le passe en bac, parce que les eaux ont détruit le pont et n'en ont laissé que quelques piliers pour embellir ce charmant site aux yeux d'un peintre. Le bourg ou ville, n'offre rien de remarquable. La grande place est rafraîchie par des fontaines d'une eau limpide et abondante. Sur une colline voisine s'élèvent les débris imposants d'un vaste et ancien château. On est indigné de voir que cette position avantageuse dans un sol aussi fertile n'excite pas l'industrie dans les habitants, qui paroissent croupir dans l'inactivité et la misère; peut-être faut-il s'en prendre au peu d'encouragement qu'offrent ceux qui gouvernent.

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H. Swinburne del.

Medland sculp.

MONTESA

London: Published, June 20. 1806. by Edw^d Orme, Bond Street.

MONTESA.

AFTER passing through the luxuriant plains of Valencia, and crossing the muddy river Xucar at Alzira, you enter a spacious tract of land planted with rice; this grain is raised here in great abundance, and of excellent quality. The road afterwards proceeds up the narrow winding vallies of the mountains that divide Castille from Valencia; in the midst of these bleak eminences the town of Xativa or St. Philip stands very conspicuously, and at the distance of a few miles the ruins of the castle and convent of Montesa appear on a round knoll. Here in 1317 James the Third of Arragon fixed the residence of an order of knighthood destined to be a lasting barrier against the Moors, whom he had just driven out of Valencia; none but noble natives of the kingdom of Valencia can be admitted into it; their cross is red, and since the days of Ferdinand the Catholic, the King of Spain is always Grandmaster of this as well as of the other military orders. The knights continued to inhabit this venerable pile till the year 1748, when a terrible earthquake shook to the foundation and overturned the greatest part of the buildings; the knights, priests, and servants, were driven for refuge to Valencia, where Charles the Third has erected a grand palace for their reception. The vallies of this district are very beautiful, and well planted with olive trees. The highlands are in general bare of wood, and productive only of corn.

CHÂTEAU DE MONTESA.

APRES avoir traversé les fertiles plaines de Valence, cotoyé les grands lacs salés et passé le Xucar à Alzira, le voyageur arrive à d'autres plaines couvertes de ris, qui y croit en grande abondance et d'une excellente qualité. Peu à peu on entre dans les gorges des montagnes limitrophes de la Castille, où la ville de Saint Philippe se présente bien avantageusement située sur une hauteur; en s'avancant dans ce pais montueux on voit sur une éminence toute ronde les ruines du Chateau et du couvent de Montesa, chef-lieu d'un ordre de chevalerie religieuse et militaire; il est de nécessité que les chevaliers soient tous gentilshommes natifs du royaume de Valence; leur croix est rouge, leur institution remonte à l'année 1317 quand Jacques trois d'Aragon fonda cet ordre pour servir de rempart contre les Infidèles qu'il venoit de chasser de Valence. Il fixa leur chapitre à Montesa et les enrichit des dépouilles des templiers. En 1748 un tremblement de terre bouleversa ce chateau et en chassa pour toujours chevaliers, prêtres et servans, qui se réfugièrent à Valence où Charles trois leur a élevé un superbe hôtel à ses frais comme Grandmaitre del' ordre, dignité affectée à la souveraineté depuis le tems de Ferdinand le Catholique. Les vallons sont très fertiles en légumes et plantés d'oliviers dont le fruit est de la petite espece; les collines et plaines élevées produisent du bled et très peu de bois; à peine y trouve, t'on quelques touffes de pins.

MONTESA.

After passing through the luxuriant plains of Valencia, and crossing the muddy river Xucar at Albuja, you enter a fertile tract of land planted with rice: this grain is raised here in great abundance, and of excellent quality. The road afterwards proceeds up the narrow winding valleys of the mountains that divide Castile from Valencia; in the midst of these hills commences the town of Montesa, or St. Philip stands very conspicuously, and at the distance of a few miles the ruins of the castle and convent of Montesa appear on a round knoll. Here in 1517 James the Third of Aragon fixed the residence of an order of knighthood destined to be a lasting barrier against the Moors, whom he had just driven out of Valencia; none but noble natives of the kingdom of Valencia can be admitted into its ranks, and their cross is red, and since the days of Ferdinand the Catholic, the King of Spain is always Grandmaster of this as well as of the other military orders. The knights continued to inhabit this wretched pile till the year 1750, when a terrible earthquake shook to the foundation and overturned the greater part of the buildings; the knights, priests, and servants were driven for refuge to Valencia, where Charles the Third has erected a grand palace for their reception. The walls of this district are very beautiful, and well planted with olive trees. The highlands are in general bare of wood, and productive only of corn.

CHATEAU DE MONTESA.

Après avoir traversé les plaines luxuriantes de Valence, et avoir franché le fleuve Xucar à Albuja, on entre dans un pays fertile et planté de rizières; ce grain se cultive ici en grande abondance, et de très-bonne qualité. Le chemin se poursuit ensuite dans les vallées étroites et sinueuses des montagnes qui séparent la Castille de la Valence; au milieu de ces montagnes se trouve la ville de Montesa, ou saint Philippe, qui se voit très-distinctement sur un monticule rond. Ici, en 1517, le roi d'Aragon établit la résidence d'un ordre de chevalerie destiné à servir de barrière permanente aux Maures, qu'il venait de chasser de Valence; on ne peut être admis dans cet ordre que si l'on est noble et natif du royaume de Valence; sa croix est rouge, et depuis le règne de Ferdinand le Catholique, le roi d'Espagne est toujours Grand-maître de cet ordre, ainsi que de tous les autres ordres militaires. Les chevaliers ont continué d'habiter cette misérable demeure jusqu'en l'année 1750, où un terrible tremblement de terre renversa la plus grande partie des bâtiments; les chevaliers, les prêtres, et les domestiques furent obligés de se réfugier à Valence, où le roi Charles III. a fait bâtir un grand palais pour leur servir de résidence. Les murailles de ce district sont très-belles, et bien plantées d'oliviers. Les hauteurs sont en général dépourvues de bois, et ne produisent que du blé et quelques autres grains.



H. Swinburne del.

J. Medland sculp.

THE GENERALIFFE

London Published June 20. 1806. by Edw^d Orme Bond Street.

THE GENERALIFFE, A PALACE OF THE KINGS OF GRANADA.

HERE the Moorish Sovereigns of Granada were wont to retire in spring to solace themselves under flowery shades, and enjoy the rich views from marble halls and fantastic grottos watered by perpetual streams. It were impossible to find a spot more adapted to lull the senses into a sweet oblivion of the cares and toils of life. The landscape before it is composed of a rich vale of great extent, bold mountains in various distances, the city of Granada, hills covered with fragrant gardens, the royal palace of the Alhambra, and the hanging woods that shade the valley of Dauro.

The apartments were spacious and richly decorated, waterworks were continually playing in every court, and streams bubbling in marble channels through every room: the gardens were alternately open to the prospects, or shut up from every prying eye by myrtles and other sweet-scented plants, while lofty cypresses waved their heads above in the gentle balmy breeze; nothing can be purer than the air breathed on this mountain.

The palace is now the property of the family of Grimaldi, descended by the females from the Kings of Granada; it is now abandoned, and uninhabited. The fretted ornaments are fallen from the walls and ceilings, the waterworks are spoilt, and the springs are forced to find their way through rubbish and brambles; but the myrtles and cypresses still flourish, and are probably the largest of their species existing.

LE GÉNÉRALIFFE.

LES Rois Mores de Grenade avoient coutume de passer leurs printems dans ce palais, dont la situation et l'arrangement leur offroient tous les plaisirs qui ont leur source dans la beauté des vûes, la pureté de l'air et l'imperturbabilité de la retraite. Là mollement étendus dans des falons de fées ils respiroient un air rafraichi par cent fontaines jaillissantes, et parfumé par des bosquets de plantes aromatiques; ils voyoient à leurs piés le plus riche des tableaux; leur vûe embrassoit une plaine chargée de plus précieuses productions de la nature, des montagnes de différentes formes et couleurs, la ville de Grenade, des collines ombragées, de fertiles vergers, le château majestueux de l'Alhambra et les beaux bois qui bordent le cours du Dauro. Les appartemens étoient vastes, et magnifiquement décorés dans le gout oriental; chaque salle avoit son ruisseau qui fuyoit dans des canaux de marbre; chaque cour avoit son jet d'eau: les jardins étoient distribués de manière à s'ouvrir en quelques endroits à la belle perspective, en d'autres à former des retraites impénétrables à l'oeil du curieux; rien n'égale la douceur, la pureté de l'air qu'on y respire.

Aujourd'hui tout est dans le plus triste abandon; le stuc, et les peintures sont dégradés, les ruisseaux détournés, les jets d'eau à sec et le jardin couvert de broussailles; mais on y trouve encore de beaux myrtes et des cyprès d'une hauteur étonnante. Ce palais appartient au Comte de Campotejar descendu des Rois de Grenade par les femmes.

THE GENRAL LITER

OF THE KING OF SPAIN

The first of the three parts of the work is a general history of the kingdom of Spain, from the time of its discovery by Christopher Columbus to the present day. The second part is a description of the various provinces of the kingdom, and the third part is a description of the various cities and towns of the kingdom. The work is written in a clear and concise style, and is a valuable source of information for anyone interested in the history and geography of Spain.

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H. Swinburne del.

Ellis sculp.

PASS at BELLEGARDE

London Published June 20. 1806. by E. & J. Orme Bond Street.

THE PASS OF BELLEGARDE.

I HAVE placed Perpignan at the head of this Picturesque Tour of Spain, because the province of Roussillon, of which it is the capital city, was till the peace of the Pyrenees in 1659, part of the Spanish monarchy, and with regard to manners, language, and productions, still bears the marks of a common origin with the neighbouring provinces of Spain: I considered it therefore as a proper introduction or connecting link between France and Spain, though in strictness the journey ought to commence with the Fort of Bellegarde.

This Castle commands the principal pass in that branch of the Pyrenean Mountains, which, being detached from the general mass, runs into the Mediterranean Sea at Cape Creus, and divides France from Spain. On the French side you approach the mountains through a rich country well wooded and watered, in which Boulon is the principal village on the road. The Tech, a considerable torrent, rolls with great rapidity along the northern basis of the mountain, and in its winding course affords many romantic situations. The lower hills are covered with wood, and finely varied in their contours. As you ascend, the prospects burst upon you towards the north in great magnificence; the eye takes in an immense stretch of plain, in which all protuberances are levelled down and blended with the lower parts of the vale: the Gulph of Lyons forms the right hand border to the picture; that on the left is composed of the vast body of the Pyrenees, while the upper line is closed by the distant blue mountains of the Gevaudan.

The road to the fort is excellent, as no expence has been spared in clearing away the rocks and filling up the ravines: from being a most difficult, dangerous ascent, it is now become safe and easy for all descriptions of travellers. Bellegarde is built on a round hill separated from the rest, and its batteries enfilade the approaches on both sides. The view from it every way extensive. Towards Spain the eye wanders over a boundless tract of country almost uninhabited, and left in the rudest state of nature: scarce a sign of cultivation, or a house to disturb the idea of depopulation. The white rock appears in large patches, with here and there a clump of pines or cork trees; the rest of the surface is overgrown with brushwood and aromatic plants. The sea on the east forms a long line till it is hidden by a ridge of mountains, whose conical summits bespeak a volcanic origin, and are broken by shaggy rocks and ruined towers: at the foot of this chain rises a groupe of lesser hills richly clad with wood. To the west the landscape is confined by a branch of the Pyrenees that advances into Catalonia and Aragon; a rugged country, inhabited by an active warlike race of men, known in the French wars by the name of Miquelets; their light dress is well calculated for the desultory kind of warfare in which they distinguish themselves; at present many of them are employed by government to serve the police of the country, and to pursue those that disturb its peace.

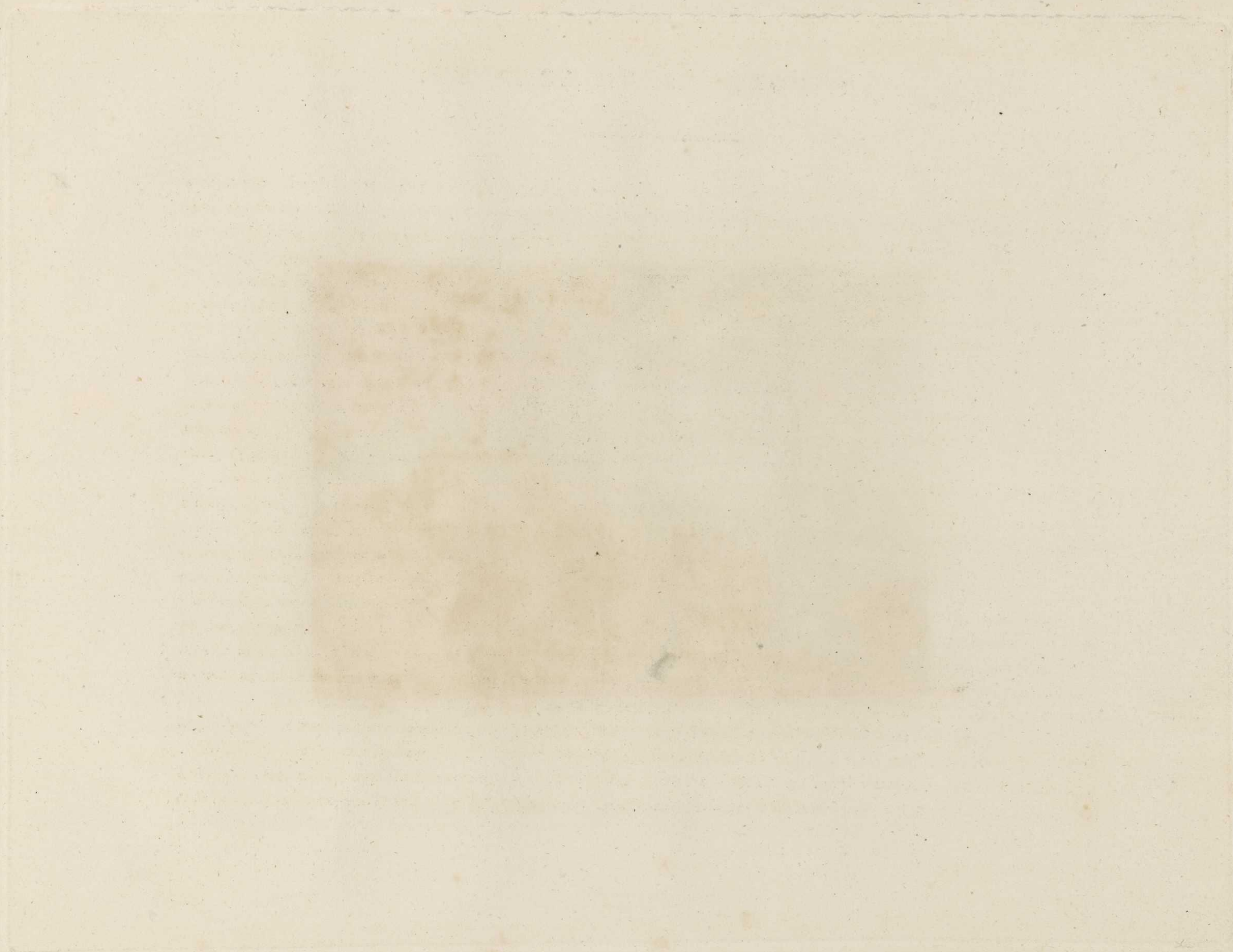
At Bellegarde every traveller is indispensably bound to produce a passport, and his baggage is examined. Below the fort stands a liminary column, erected upon the line that divides the two states. From hence the descent is rapid, and at the foot of the mountain ends the good road; no further repairs are bestowed upon it, but it is left to wind over rocks and cliffs, across rugged heaths, or along the stony beds of torrents, which in the rainy season impede the traveller's progress.

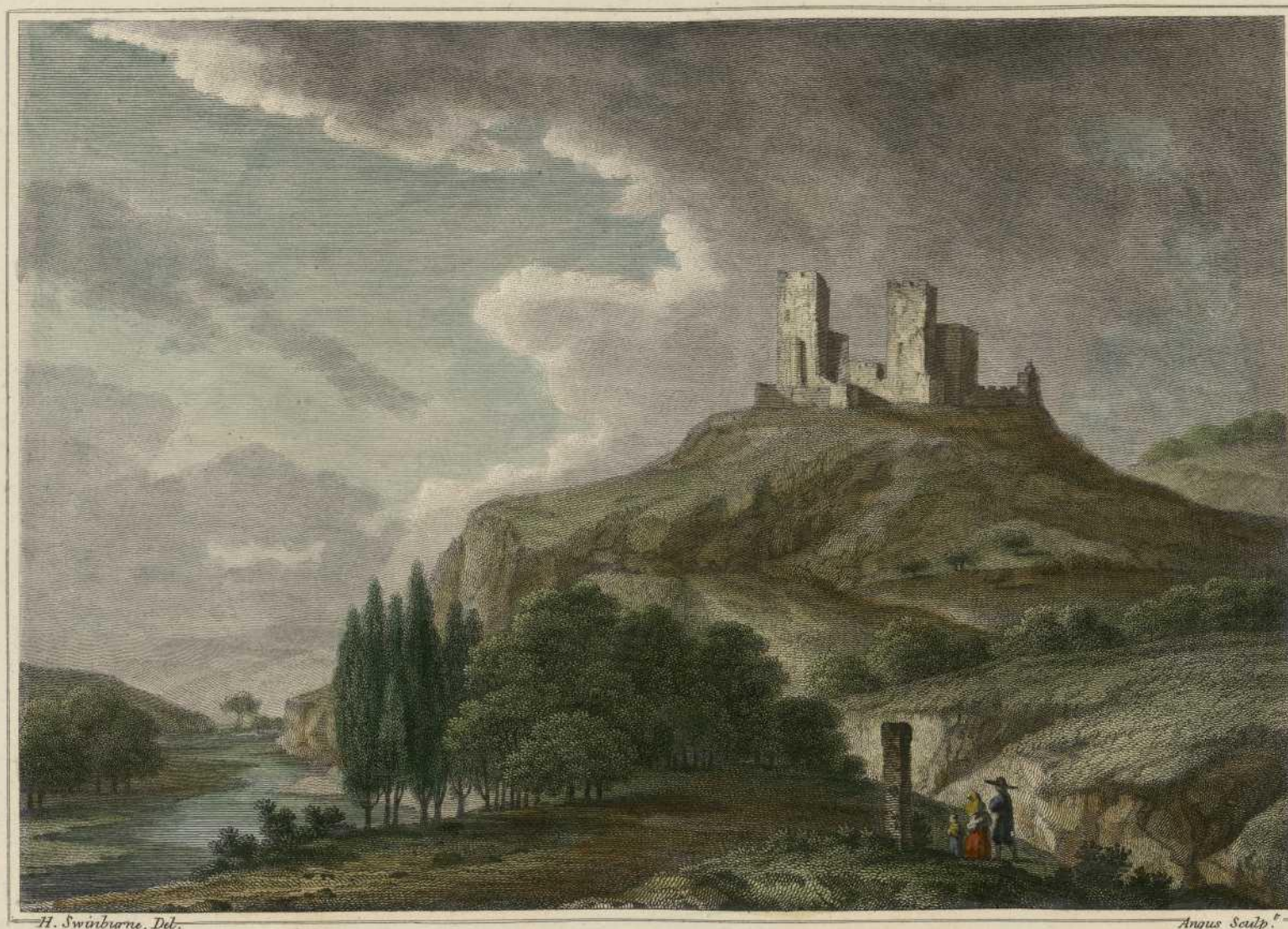
LE FORT DE BELLEGARDE.

J'AI placé la vûe du pont de Perpignan à la tête de ce voyage pittoresque, parceque la province de Rouffillon, dont Perpignan est la capitale, a fait jusqu'à la paix des Pyrenées, partie de la monarchie Espagnole, et parcequ'on y trouve encore dans ses mœurs, coutumes, langage, et productions, une ressemblance marquée avec la province limitrophe. Je l'ai donc crû propre à former le premier chaînon et à servir d'introduction, quoiqu'à la rigueur ce voyage d'Espagne devoit commencer par le pas de Bellegarde. Le fort est bâti sur une hauteur isolée au sommet de cette chaîne des Pyrenées qui se détache de la grande masse pour servir de séparation entre les deux royaumes, et va se perdre dans la Méditerranée au cap de Creus. C'est ici la seule porte de communication et les batteries du fort dominant sur toutes les approches soit du côté de la France, soit de celui de l'Espagne.

Pour y arriver de Perpignan, on traverse un pays inégal assez bien cultivé jusqu'aux bords du Tech, qui est un torrent très formidable en hiver; ses coteaux sont agréables et offrent beaucoup de sites pittoresques; on monte au travers d'assez beaux bois par un chemin large et commode qu'on a formé avec des dépenses incroyables. Il a fallu combler des ravins profonds, applanir des côtes escarpées et faire sauter d'énormes rochers avant que de rendre ce chemin praticable pour les voitures. Du sommet l'œil parcourt toute la plaine du Rouffillon, qui se présente comme un magnifique tableau encadré dans les Pyrenées, les Cevennes et le golfe de Lyon. Vers l'Espagne le paysage n'est pas à beaucoup près si riche; là s'étend à perte de vue une contrée presque déserte, où les hommes ne paroissent qu'en passant sans presque laisser des traces de leur séjour. Chaque objet confirme l'idée d'abandon; on y voit de grandes masses de rochers stériles, quelques bouquets de pins et de lièges et quelques bois taillis; tout le reste est couvert de plantes sauvages. A gauche on voit la mer s'étendre au loin jusqu'à ce qu'elle disparoisse derrière une chaîne de hautes montagnes dont les cimes coniques annoncent une origine volcanique; quelques unes sont découpées et d'autres sont couronnées de tours antiques et ruinées. Au pied de ces montagnes s'élèvent de jolies collines tapissées de bois et d'une forme élégante. A droite la vue est bornée par une branche des Pyrenées, qui s'avance dans la Catalogne et renferme en son sein une race d'hommes guerrière et infatigable, renommée dans les guerres passées sous le nom de Miquelets: leur habillement lesté et dégagé convient admirablement au caractère de leur service d'infanterie légère; aujourd'hui le gouvernement en emploie un grand nombre comme Maréchaussée et ces montagnards ont servi en beaucoup d'endroits à détruire les brigands et à assurer la tranquillité publique.

Au pied de cette forteresse on examine les passeports et les malles des voyageurs; un peu plus bas vers le midi on trouve une colonne placée au point où finit le royaume de France et malheureusement avec lui finissent les beaux chemins. Dans cette partie de la Catalogne on ne les recommande jamais; le voyageur tremblant et cahotté chemine par-dessus les rochers et les précipices, au travers des landes et dans les lits pierreux des torrens, qui souvent par des crues subites l'obligent à s'arrêter tristement sur leurs bords à attendre qu'on puisse passer sans danger d'être noyé.





RUINS of the CASTLE of PUEBLA in BISCAY.

London Published June 20, 1806 by Edw. Orme Bond Street

CASTLE OF LA PUEBLA,
IN BISCAY.

THESE ruins rise majestically on the extremity of a high ridge of hills that mark the limits between the kingdom of Old Castille and the lordship of Biscay.

Here the traveller, wearied and disheartened with his tedious journey through the rough neglected highways of Spain, begins for the first time to breathe and enjoy a little ease. Here commences an excellent road, which conducts him pleasantly to the frontiers of France. The landscape now assumes a gayer aspect; fine water, romantic hills, and woody dales, are more frequent than in the country that borders upon it to the south.

CHÂTEAU DE LA PUEBLA,
EN BISCAYE.

EN sortant de la Vieille Castille où l'état affreux des chemins est capable d'abattre le courage comme il fracasse les membres des malheureux voyageurs, on est bien agréablement surpris de se trouver sur une route unie comme la main, de voir devant soi une belle rivière, des collines bien boisées et bien cultivées et les ruines majestueuses d'un vieux château qui rendent le tableau parfait.

CASTLE OF LA PUEBLA

IN BISCAY

These ruins are magnificently on the summit of a high ridge of hills that mark the limits between the kingdom of Old Castile and the lordship of Biscay. Here the traveller, entering the country through the rough wooded valleys of Spain, begins for the first time to breathe and enjoy a fresh air. Here mountains are everywhere, which contribute largely to the beauty of the scene. The landscape now assumes a new aspect, the water, formerly still, and wooded hills, are now frequent in the country that borders upon the sea.

CHATEAU DE LA PUEBLA

EN BISCAYE

Ex sortant de la Vieille Castille on se trouve dans le pays de Biscaye, et les montagnes des Pyrénées se voient. Ici le voyageur commence à respirer un air pur et à jouir d'une belle vue. Les montagnes sont partout, et contribuent beaucoup à la beauté du pays. Le paysage change maintenant d'aspect, les eaux, autrefois calmes, et les montagnes boisées, sont maintenant fréquentes dans le pays qui borde la mer.

YANKEE TRAVELLER'S GUIDE



H. Swinburne Delin.

Watts Sculp.

GATE of the CID at VALENCIA.

London Published June 20. 1806 by Edw. Orme Bond Street.

GATE OF VALENCIA.

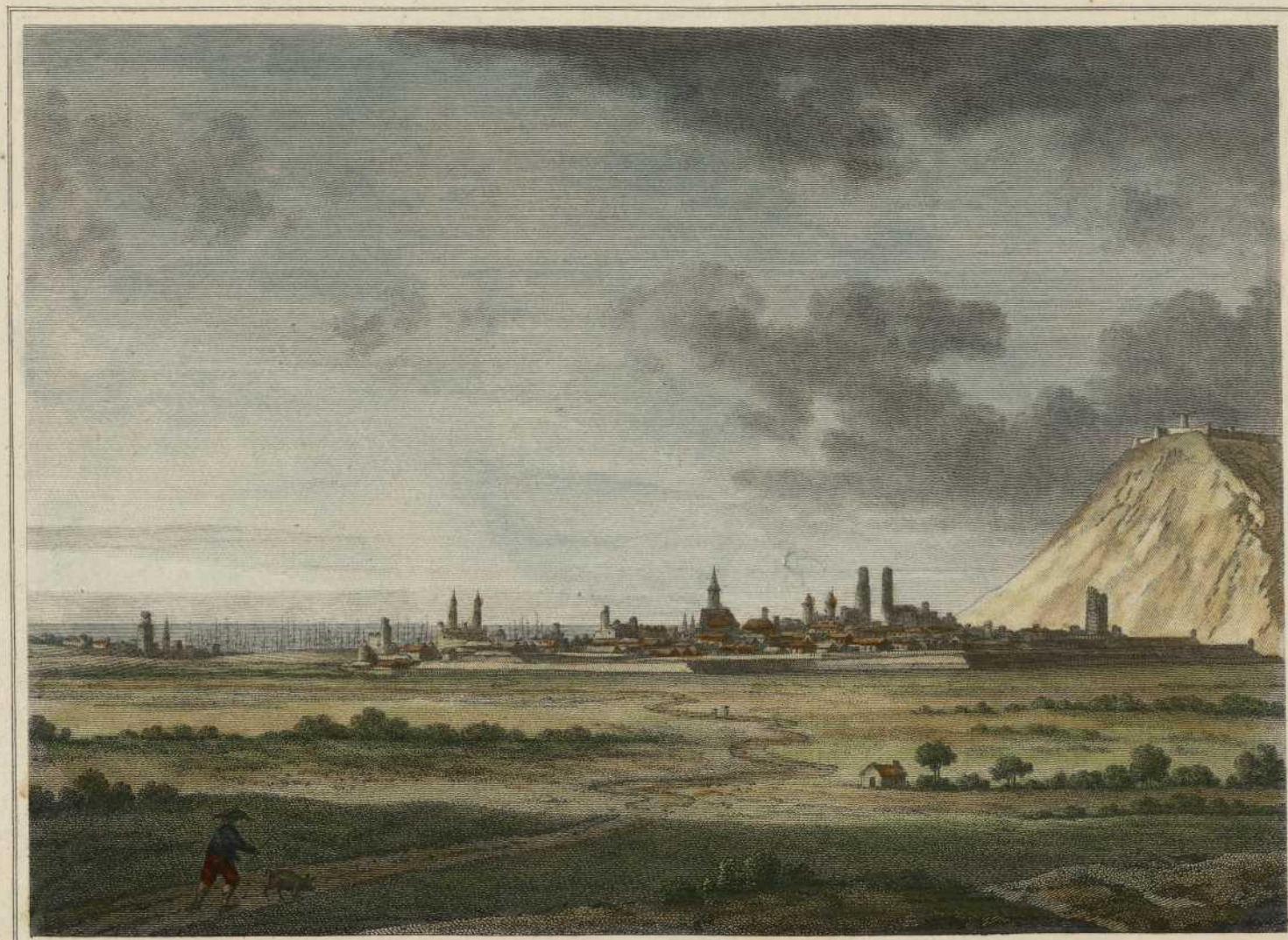
IN the eleventh century the Spanish Saracens divided Spain into several small kingdoms. Valencia became the capital of one of them; and a more eligible spot could not have been found for the purpose. It stands in the centre of an oblong plain, which nature and art have contributed to enrich with every production that can be required by necessity or luxury; a sea full of small bays, sufficient for the protection of the navies of those days, incloses it on one side, and on the other a chain of mountains defend it from the boisterous winds of the north and west.

The Moors were not long suffered to enjoy these blessings undisturbed. The famous Ruy Dias del Vivar, surnamed the Cid, expelled them, and established a sort of independent sovereignty in Valencia. The round towers in this view are called by his name, and supposed to have been erected by him. After his death the Infidels regained Valencia, and kept it two hundred years, till James the First of Aragon dispossessed them for ever. The appearance of the city, though on a perfect level, is rendered picturesque by the various forms and elevations of its towers and cupolas; and in the drive round the walls the scene is beautifully diversified.

PORTE DE VALENCE.

DANS le onzième siècle les Mores d'Espagne la partagèrent en plusieurs souverainetés. Valence devint la capitale d'un de ces petits royaumes, et jamais capitale ne fût plus délicieusement placée. Elle s'élève ornée de tours et de domes sur les bords d'une rivière, au centre d'une superbe plaine qui est disposée en parallélogramme, défendue d'un côté par une haute chaîne de montagnes, et ouverte de l'autre à la Méditerranée, où les petits batimens de ces tems là trouvoient des ailes suffisans. La plaine arrosée par mille canaux et mise en œuvre par les bras d'une population immense et industrieuse fournissoit alors tout ce que le besoin et le luxe pouvoit désirer. La douce température du climat garantissoit de tout accident ses abondantes moissons.

Ils ne jouirent point paisiblement de cette belle acquisition. Le fameux Cid les en chassa, et pour assurer sa conquête, fit élever les murs et les tours qu'on voit dans cette estampe et qui portent encore son nom. A sa mort les Infidèles rentrèrent dans Valence, et ce ne fût que deux cens ans après que Jacques premier, Roi d'Aragon, les en chassa pour ne plus y revenir.



H. Swinburne Delin.

Watts Sculp.

BARCELONA.

London Published June 20. 1806 by Edw. Urne Bond Street.

B A R C E L O N A,

FROM THE LAND-SIDE.

AMILCAR BARCAS, judging this bay near the mouth of the Rubricatus to be a proper station for the Carthaginian fleet, built a town on the shore, and called it Barcino. The situation rendered it of equal importance to the Romans, who inclosed it with a strong quadrilateral wall, of which traces are yet visible near the centre of the present city. The harbour answers the purposes of commerce sufficiently; but the want of water on the bar, and of shelter against the winds, renders it less proper for those of a navy. The fortifications are of brick, and were repaired and improved in 1714 by the ablest engineers, after the obstinate resistance of its inhabitants had proved ineffectual against the arms of Lewis the Fourteenth. The high insulated Mont Jouy commands the whole place.

The approach to Barcelona on the land-side is through a spacious plain, extremely well cultivated; the different properties are separated by hedges of aloe; the farm-houses and villas are surrounded by gardens, orchards, and thickets of odoriferous plants, which perfume the air. When you first enter the vale, the lofty buildings of the city rise in a beautiful outline, sketched, as it were, on the perpendicular surface of Mont Jouy; its cliffs break the long azure line of sea, on which numbers of vessels are moving in various directions; and the masts of the vessels in port blend their sharp points very agreeably with the blunt summits of the steeples and turrets.

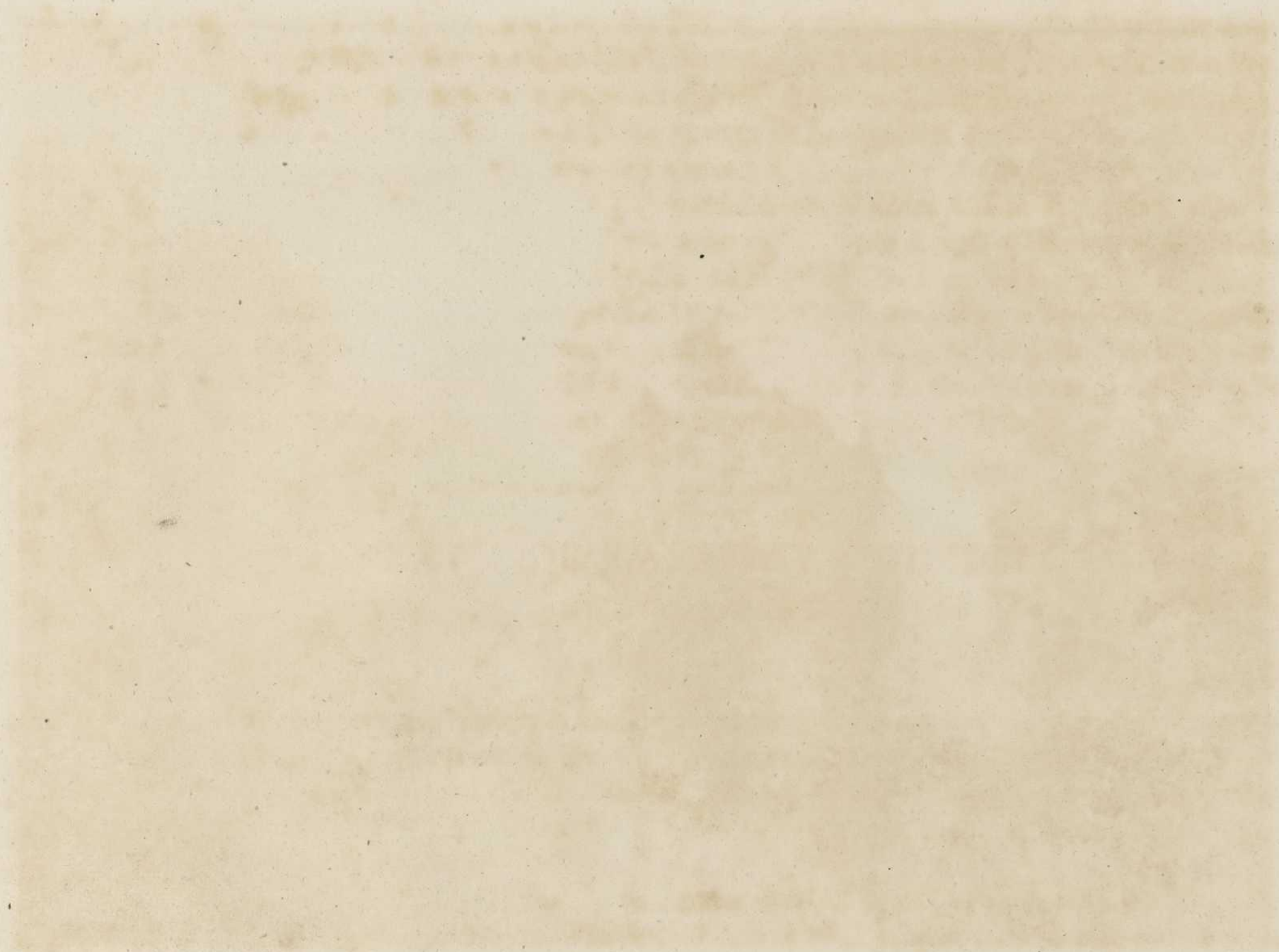
B A R C E L O N E,

VUE DU COTÉ DE LA TERRE.

ON croit que Barcelone doit son nom et son origine au père du grand Hannibal, Amilcar Barcas, qui s'aperçut le premier combien cette situation pourroit être utile aux opérations maritimes de sa nation. Les Romains adoptèrent ses idées et rendirent cet établissement très considérable: on retrace encore au centre de la ville les murs dont ils en formèrent l'enceinte quadrilaterale. Dans les siècles postérieurs Barcelone est devenue la capitale du país. Après le siège de 1714 ses fortifications furent mises en ordre par les meilleurs ingénieurs, mais le Mont Jouy domine la place.

Dès qu'un voyageur, qui vient de France par la route de Gironne, sort de la gorge des montagnes il voit au loin devant lui la ville de Barcelone qui paroît adossée contre les rochers blancs du Mont Jouy, tandis qu'une grande étendue de mer termine majestueusement l'horizon; les mats des vaisseaux se confondent avec les clochers des églises et rompent agréablement la ligne trop uniforme des édifices.

Pour y arriver il faut traverser une superbe plaine où l'air est embaumé par les aloes et par les buissons de plantes odoriférantes qui entourent et séparent les différentes possessions.





RUINS of the CASTLE of LAS NAVAS in ANDALUSIA

London, Published June 20. 1806 by Edw. D. Orme, Bond Street.

CASTLE OF THE NAVAS OF TOLOSA, *IN ANDALUSIA.*

THIS is a most romantic spot, worthy of the pencil of Salvator Rosa: a bold eminence, crowned with the remains of an ancient castle, seems to block up the passage towards the mountains; hills clothed with wood, and huge masses of rocks impending on every side, confine the waters of a limpid rivulet to a narrow defile, where they tumble down a shelving bed. Shade, coolness, and the pureness of the water, draw hither frequent parties from the neighbouring towns; here they feast, dance, and sing, till the approach of night warns them to reascend the heights, and retire to less solitary abodes.

In this pass, on a round hill, was encamped in 1212, Mahomet Miramolin of Africa, with his mighty host, when the allied Kings of Castille, Aragon, and Navarre, came over the Sierra Morena to attack him. The strength of his position, and his command of the only way by which they could penetrate into Andalusia, checked their progress. The Moor had behind him an abundant country and rich towns, from which he drew daily supplies: the Spaniards had neither victuals nor drink, nor any means of procuring them in the mountainous desert in which they were engaged: it was therefore necessary to take a speedy resolution: the attack was voted. Under the guidance of a shepherd the allies surprised a hill that overlooked the African camp: the assault was given, the entrenchments were forced, and the infidels routed with prodigious slaughter. This victory decided the fate of Spain.

CHÂTEAU DE LAS NAVAS DE TOLOSA, *EN ANDALOUSIE.*

RIEN de plus agreste, rien de plus pittoresque que ce site; des montagnes escarpées entourent un vallon étroit; les pentes des collines sont tapissées de bois; d'énormes masses de rochers rétrécissent de chaque côté le lit d'un ruisseau clair comme le cristal; le chemin serpente autour des rochers pour trouver une issue que la montagne sur laquelle s'élèvent les restes délabrés d'un vieux château, semble lui refuser. Les habitans des villes voisines viennent souvent en partie de plaisir passer la journée dans ces lieux champêtres, que Salvator Rosa auroit cru dignes de son pinceau.

On trouveroit à peine dans toute l'Espagne un endroit aussi célèbre que celui-ci: c'est ici que se donna en 1212 une fameuse bataille entre les rois de Castille, d'Aragon, et de Navarre, d'un côté, et Mahomet ben Joseph Miramolin d'Afrique de l'autre; elle decida la question si l'Espagne devoit être Chrétienne ou Musulmane.

Le prince Maure étoit campé sur une hauteur, qui commandoit le seul défilé par où les Espagnols pouvoient pénétrer dans l'Andalousie: derrière lui étoient des villes et des plaines abondantes qui lui fournissoient tout ce dont il pouvoit avoir besoin; au lieu que les Chrétiens courroient risque de mourir de faim et de soif dans la Sierra Morena où ils s'étoient enfoncés. Il falloit prendre son parti au plus vite; se retirer ou attaquer; on résolut d'attaquer. Sous la conduite d'un berger l'armée Espagnole s'empara par surprise d'une hauteur qui dominoit sur le camp ennemi. On attaque, on emporte les retranchemens d'assaut, les infidèles sont mis en déroute et on les poursuit avec un carnage affroyable. La perte des vainqueurs est peu de chose et la victoire des plus complètes.

CHATEAU DE LA FAYE DE TOULON

IN NORMANDIE

Le château de la Faye de Toulon est une des plus belles demeures de la Normandie. Il est situé sur une colline qui domine la mer, et sa position est très avantageuse. Le château est entouré d'un jardin très agréable, et il y a une belle vue sur la mer. Le château est très ancien, et il a été construit par les seigneurs de la Faye. Il a été habité par de nombreux seigneurs, et il a été détruit plusieurs fois. Mais il a toujours été reconstruit, et il est aujourd'hui une des plus belles demeures de la Normandie.

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H. Swinburne Del.

Mollard Sculp.

MADRID.
From the Casa del Campo

London Published June 22 1806 by Edw^d Orme Bond Street

M A D R I D,

FROM THE PARK OF THE CASA DEL CAMPO.

TILL the beginning of the sixteenth century the name of Madrid was scarce known. It was then a small though ancient burgh, where the Kings of Castille had a hunting feat. The country, which is now quite bare for many miles round, was then covered with noble forests abounding in game. The Emperor Charles the Fifth, being indebted to the purity of its air for the recovery of his health, was the first sovereign that made it the permanent residence of his court. Increase of population and buildings followed rapidly, and the burgh swelled to its present size and splendour. Its streets are wide, its edifices handsome, though not always built in a good taste; but the situation is the most unpleasant imaginable. Madrid stands on a hill, exposed to all winds, in the centre of a boundless tract, on which not a steeple or house, and scarce a tree, can be discovered. Some scattered evergreens on the road to the Escorial, a few new avenues, the gardens of the Buenretiro, and the park of the Casa del Campo, form the whole amount of wood in this vast space.

The view is taken from a part of the park that affords many pleasant walks and shady retreats, doubly delightful in a hot country where shady groves are such a rarity. The royal palace rises in front; a stupendous work of Charles the Third, who spared no expence to make it one of the most magnificent residences in Europe. The Manzanares creeps through the sands at the foot of the hill, till it reaches the arches of the noble bridge on the road to Toledo.

M A D R I D,

VU DU PARC DE LA CASA DEL CAMPO.

MADRID n'étoit qu'un vieux bourg peu connu jusqu'au tems de Charles Quint, qui vint ici par ordre des medecins, et y guérit de la fièvre. Ce bienfait lui donna du gout pour l'endroit et il y transporta la cour: ses successeurs l'ont imité et le bourg est devenu une grande et belle ville. Dans le vieux tems les environs étoient couverts de forêts, où les rois de Castille venoient chasser la grand bête. Aujourd'huy on y voit à peine un seul arbre; quelques chênes verts sur la route de l'Escorial, quelques avenues nouvellement plantées, les jardins du Buenretiro et le parc de la Casa del Campo font la somme totale des bois de cette immense étendue de país. Les jardins de cette maison royale sont négligés mais on trouve dans le parc de l'ombre et du frais, choses très précieuses dans un climat aussi brulant et dans une contrée aussi ouverte.

La vûe de Madrid est belle vers le palais neuf, qui a été rebâti par Charles Trois. Ce prince a prodigué les trésors pour le rendre digne des Maitres du Perou.

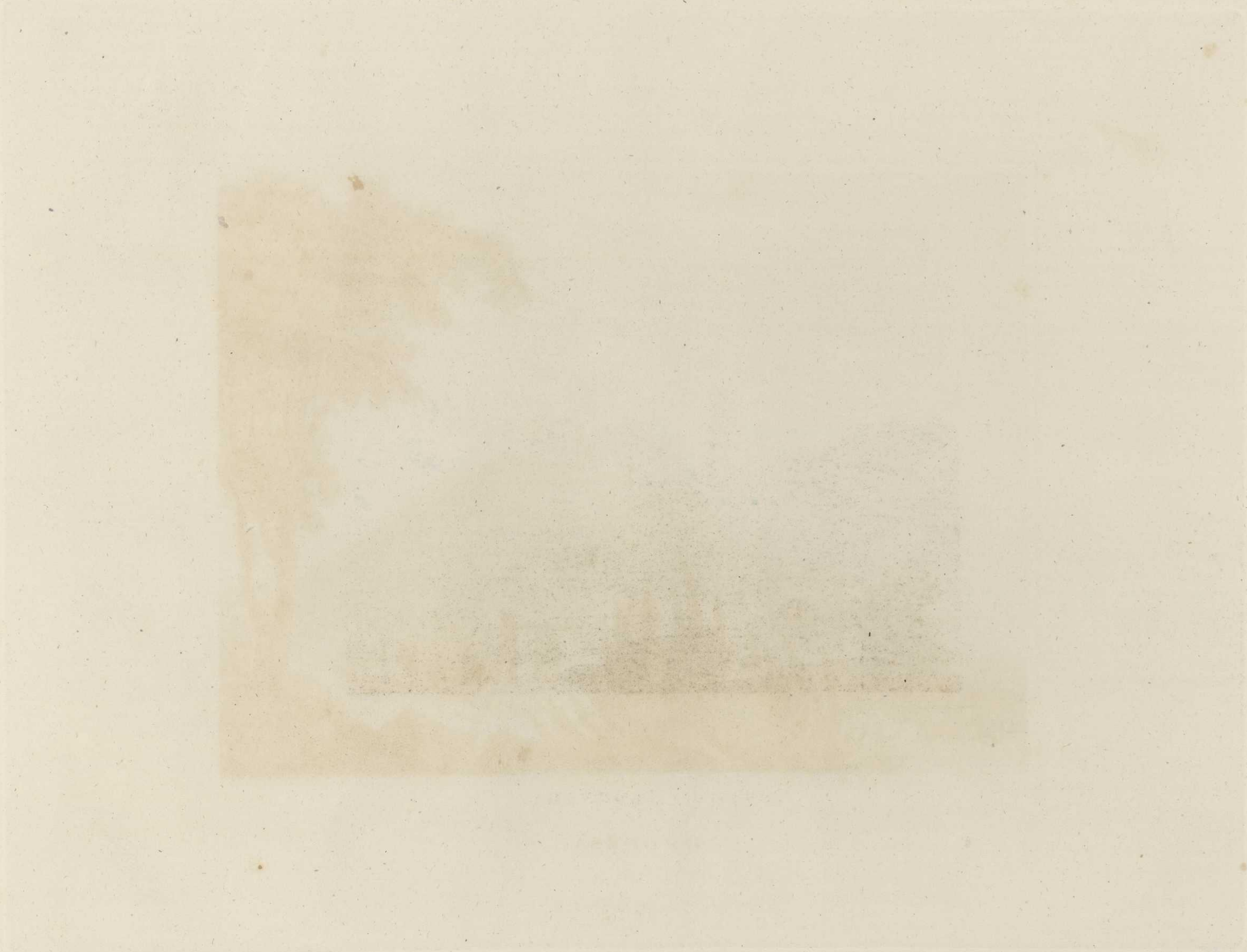


H. Swinburne del.

Medland sculp.

TOWER OF ALMENARA.

London, Published & Sold Jan'y 1806, by Edw. Orme, Printer to the King, Bond Street.





H. Swinburne del.

M. Landt sculp.

OROPESA.

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ALMENARA.

THE castle of Almenara, a tower on the coast of Valencia, is used as a signal-house, to exhibit lights at night, as a warning of the approach of an enemy, in order to guard the neighbouring people against a surprise. In the Spanish language the word Almenara is used in general to signify a lighthouse, and such this tower is to the town of Murviedro, the Saguntum of the Romans. The present town is of considerable size, and appears to stand upon the same ground as the ancient Roman city; but in all probability the Saguntum destroyed by Hannibal was built upon the summit of the hill. The Romans also had a fortress on the top of the rock, as is evident from the large stones and regular masonry, on which the Saracens afterward erected a castle.

The prospect from the summit of the mountain, which divides the vale of Almenara from that of Valencia, is beautiful beyond description. On the south the plain of Valencia stretches along the coast for twenty leagues, losing itself in a ridge of distant mountains. The yellow green of the mulberry plantations; the paler hue of the olive-trees, regularly planted in fields of bright green corn; this regularity broken occasionally by large plots of dark-coloured algarroboes; villages and convents, with numberless gay slender steeples, thickly scattered over this great expanse, and the city of Valencia, about twelve miles off, with all its spires, form the most inimitable prospect it is possible to conceive. On the east is one immense volume of sea, terminated only by a beautiful blue sky; and on the north is the delightful valley of Almenara; the beauties of which, were it not for its rival on the south, would engross the whole attention of the spectator; one side limited by the sinuous shore, the other by the mountains, the distant summits of which form the whole western horizon.

ALMENARA.

LE château d'Almenara, tour sur la côte du royaume de Valence, sert comme de béfroï, où l'on allume de la lumière pendant la nuit pour avertir de l'approche d'un ennemi, afin de mettre le pays voisin à l'abri de toute surprise. En Espagnol, on se sert en général du mot Almenara pour signifier un phare; et cette tour en est un pour la ville de Murviedro, la Sagonte des Romains. La ville actuelle est d'une étendue considérable, et paroît occuper le même terrain que l'ancienne ville Romaine; mais, selon toutes les apparences, la Sagonte détruite par Annibal étoit bâtie sur le sommet de la colline. Les Romains avoient aussi une forteresse sur le haut du rocher: c'est ce que prouvent évidemment les grandes pierres de taille et la maçonnerie régulière, sur lesquelles les Sarazins ont ensuite élevé le château.

La vue du haut de la montagne qui sépare la vallée d'Almenara de celle de Valence, est belle au-delà de toute description. Au sud la plaine de Valence s'étend l'espace de vint lieues le long de la côte, et se termine par une chaîne de montagnes éloignées. Le vert jaunâtre des muriers, la couleur pâle des oliviers plantés avec simétrie dans des champs de blé d'un vert éclatant; cette régularité coupée çà et là par de grandes pièces de l'ers tétrasperme d'une couleur foncée, des couvens et des villages, avec un nombre infini de clochers, d'une forme agréable et déliée, situés très-près les uns des autres dans cette grande étendue, forment le paysage le plus inimitable qu'il soit possible de concevoir. A l'est est un immense espace de mer, terminé par un ciel du plus beau bleu, et au nord est la délicieuse vallée d'Almenara, dont les beautés, sans sa rivale du sud, fixeroient toute l'attention du spectateur, ayant d'un côté pour limites les bords sinueux de la mer, et de l'autre des montagnes, dont les sommets éloignés forment l'horizon occidental.

OROPESA.

THE little town of Oropesa, in Valencia, stands near the sea, in the vicinity of Torreblanca, or the White Tower, another small town, nearly midway between Tortosa and Valencia. It is at no great distance from Benicarlo and Peniscola, where the best of those strong, sweet red wines are made, of which large quantities are smuggled into France, to mix with the inferior claret of Bourdeaux, for the purpose of imparting to it body and colour.

This town gives the title of count to the descendants of Don Garcia Alvarez de Toledo; Henry, king of Castile, having bestowed both the title and the town on that gentleman, in consideration of his resigning the dignity of grand master of the knights of Saint Jago, which he then held. This order was instituted in 1170, under the reign of Ferdinand II, king of Leon and Galicia, to put a stop to the incursions of the Moors; the knights obliging themselves by a vow to secure the roads. The same year they formed a union with the canons of St. Eloy; and in 1175 the order was confirmed by the Pope. Since the resignation of the office of grand master by Don Garcia Alvarez, this dignity has been united to the crown. It is an order of high respectability, as the knights are obliged to make proof of their descent from families that have been noble for at least four generations, both on the paternal and maternal side: and they must likewise prove, that these noble ancestors have neither been Jews, Saracens, nor heretics, nor even called in question by the Inquisition. The novices are obliged to serve six months on board the galleys, and to reside one month in a monastery. Formerly it was a religious order, and took the vow of celibacy; but Pope Alexander III gave the members permission to marry. The vows they now make are those of poverty, obedience, and conjugal fidelity; to which has been added, ever since the year 1652, that of defending the immaculate conception of the Holy Virgin. Their habit is a white cloak, with a red cross on the breast. It is esteemed the most considerable of all the military orders in Spain: and the king takes care to retain the office of grand master in his own family, on account of the rich revenues and offices, the disposal of which is annexed to that dignity. The number of knights is much greater now than formerly, as all the grandees are ambitious of being admitted into it, rather than that of the Golden Fleece, from the opportunity it gives them of obtaining commands, with many considerable privileges in all the provinces of Spain, particularly in Catalonia.

OROPESE.

LA petite ville d'Oropèse, dans le royaume de Valence, est sur le bord de la mer, dans le voisinage de Torreblanca, ou de la Tour Blanche, autre petite ville à mi-chemin à peu près entre Tortose et Valence. Elle n'est pas fort éloignée de Benicarlo et de Peniscola, où l'on fait les meilleurs de ces vins rouges doux et piquans, dont on fait entrer frauduleusement une si grande quantité en France, où on les mêle avec les petits vins de Bordeaux, afin de leur donner du corps et de la couleur.

Cette ville donne le titre de compte aux descendans de Dom Garcie Alvarez de Toledé, à qui Henri, roi de Castile, donna et cette ville et ce titre, en compensation de la dignité de grand maître des chevaliers de Saint-Jaques, dont ce seigneur se demit. Cet ordre avoit été institue en 1170, sous le règne de Ferdinand II, roi de Léon et de Galice, pour mettre fin aux incursions des Mores, les chevaliers s'obligeant par vœu à rendre les routes sûres. Dans la même année ils se réunirent aux chanoines de Saint Eloi, et en 1175 l'ordre fut confirmé par le Pape. Depuis la démission que Dom Garcie Alvarez fit de la place de grand maître, cette dignité a été réunie à la couronne. Cet ordre jouit d'une haute considération, parce que, pour y être regus, les chevaliers doivent faire preuve qu'ils descendent de familles qui ont au moins quatre générations de noblesse tant du côté paternel que maternel; et qu'ils doivent prouver aussi que leurs nobles ancêtres n'ont été ni Juifs, ni Sarasins, ni hérétiques, ni même mis à l'Inquisition. Les novices sont obligés de servir six mois à bord des galères, et de passer un mois dans un monastère. C'étoit autrefois un ordre religieuse, et l'on y faisoit vœu de célibat: mais le Pape Alexandre III donna aux chevaliers la permission de se marier. Ils ne font plus maintenant que les vœux de pauvreté, d'obéissance, et de fidélité conjugale, auxquels on ajouta en 1652 celui de défendre l'immaculée conception de la Sainte Vierge.

Leur costume est un manteau blanc avec un croix rouge sur la poitrine. On le regarde comme le plus considérable de tous les ordres militaires qu'il y ait en Espagne; et le roi a grand soin de conserver dans sa famille la grand maîtrise, à cause des riches revenus et des différentes charges dont cette dignité donne la disposition. Le nombre des chevaliers est beaucoup plus grand à présent qu'il ne l'étoit autrefois, parce que l'ambition de tous les grands est d'y être admis, plutôt que dans celui de la Toison d'Or, à cause de l'occasion que leur association à cet ordre leur donne d'obtenir des commandemens et beaucoup de privilèges considérables dans toutes les provinces d'Espagne, surtout en Catalogne.

GRANADA.

THE city of Granada is a large and pleasant city of Spain, and capital of the kingdom of Granada, with an archbishop's see, and a university, consisting of four colleges. It is built on four hills, and divided into four parts, in one of which is the cathedral, containing the tombs of those illustrious sovereigns, FERDINAND and ISABELLA, who took this city from the Moors in 1492.

In another part stands the ancient palace of the Alhambra, one of the most magnificent of any of the edifices erected in Spain by the Moors. This building is said to have been begun in 1280, by the second Moorish king of Granada, Muley Mohammed Abdallah. This grand structure is advantageously situate on a hill, which is ascended by a road bordered with hedges of myrtles, and rows of elms. It forms a mass of many houses and towers, walled round, and built of large stones of different dimensions. The floors of this palace are either marble or tiles. In the pavement of one of the rooms are two slabs of pure white marble, without spot or stain, called the two sisters, each of which is upward of fifteen feet long, and about half as broad. Some of the walls are encrusted with a kind of mosaic, formed with pieces of different coloured tiles, representing stars and foliage. One court has a fountain at each angle, and in the middle a canal of running water, deep and wide enough to swim in. Round the court there are also baths, the walls, floor, and ceilings of which are of white marble.

Within the walls of the ALHAMBRA the emperor Charles V began a new palace in the year 1568, but it never was finished, and only the shell of it remains. This is built of yellow stone. The outside forms a square of 190 feet; the inside is a grand circular court, with a portico of the Tuscan order, and a gallery of the Doric, each supported by thirty-two columns, made of single pieces of marble. The diameter of the area, which is without a roof, is 93 feet; and the covered portico is 18 feet wide; consequently the whole diameter of the rotunda is 129 feet. The palace has fifteen windows in front, and is two stories high. Between the windows are fourteen lions' mouths and eagles' beaks alternately, made of bronze, each holding a large bronze ring. On the other sides of the edifice are twenty-five more of these. The grand entrance is ornamented with columns of jasper, on the marble pedestals of which are representations of battles in basso relievo.

The city of Granada is divided into four districts, distinguished by different names: the first is properly called GRANADA, the second ALHAMBRA, the third ALBAYCIN, and the fourth ANTIQUERUELA; the whole comprehending scenes of antiquity, splendour, and beauty beyond description. The amphitheatre for bull-feasts is built of stone, and is esteemed one of the best in Spain. On the sea-coast the eye is struck with steep and craggy mountains, between which are many fertile and delightful vales, abounding in the choicest fruits, and the richest productions of nature, in addition to a very healthy climate. Of these mountains, those known by the name of ALPUXARAS, are so elevated, that from their summit you not only discover the strait of Gibraltar, but all the coast of Barbary, and the towers of Tangier and Ceuta. On the whole, the situation of the city of Granada is in every respect agreeable. During the summer months it is continually fanned by refreshing breezes; mountains covered with snow are at hand to cool their wines; and ten thousand springs pour out their limpid waters in and near the city. As the inhabitants are enabled to feed an infinite number of silk-worms, they are remarkably industrious, and have several manufactories for weaving and dying the silk which is produced.

GRENADE.

GRENADE est une grande et agréable ville d'Espagne, capitale du royaume de ce nom, avec un siège archiépiscopal, et une université qui consiste en quatre collèges. Elle est bâtie sur quatre collines, et divisée en quatre parties, dans une desquelles est la cathédrale, où l'on voit les tombeaux de Ferdinand et d'Isabelle, ces illustres souverains qui prirent la ville sur les Mores en 1492.

Dans une autre partie est l'ancien palais d'Alhambra, un des plus magnifiques édifices que les Mores aient élevés en Espagne. On dit que Muley Mohammed Abdallah, second roi More de Grenade, en jeta les premiers fondemens en 1280. Ce vaste édifice, avantageusement situé sur une colline, où l'on monte par un chemin bordé de haies de myrte et de rangées de peupliers, forme une masse de maisons et de tours, enceinte d'un mur, et bâtie avec de grosses pierres de différentes dimensions. Les planchers de ce palais sont ou de marbre ou de tuiles. Dans le pavé d'une des chambres sont deux pièces de pur marbre blanc sans tache ni souillure, qu'on nomme les deux sœurs, et dont chacune a plus de quinze pieds de long sur environ moitié autant de largeur. Quelques-unes des murailles sont incrustées d'une sorte de mosaïque, faite avec des morceaux de tuiles, qui sont diversement coloriées et qui représentent des étoiles et du feuillage. Dans une cour, il y a une fontaine à chacun des angles, et dans le milieu un canal d'eau courante, assez profond et assez large pour qu'on puisse y nager. Autour de la cour sont des chambres de bain, dont les murs et l'un et l'autre plancher sont de marbre blanc.

Dans l'enceinte des murs d'Alhambra, l'empereur Charles V commença un nouveau palais en 1568: mais il ne fut pas achevé, et il n'en reste plus que la cage. Il est bâti avec des pierres jaunes. L'exterieur est un carré de 190 pieds, et l'intérieur une grande cour circulaire, avec un portique d'ordre Toscan, et un galerie d'ordre Dorique, soutenus l'un et l'autre par 32 colonnes d'une seule pièce de marbre. Le diamètre de l'aire, qui est sans toit, étant de 93 pieds, et le portique couvert qui règne tout autour en ayant 18 de large, le diamètre total de la rotonde est en conséquence de 129 pieds. Le palais a quinze fenêtres de front et deux étages. Entre les fenêtres on voit alternativement des gueules de lion et des becs d'aigle de bronze au nombre de quatorze, dans chacun desquels sont passés de gros anneaux de bronze. On en compte 25 de plus sur les autres côtés de l'édifice. La grande entrée est ornée de colonnes de jaspe, dont les piédestaux de marbre offrent des représentations de batailles en bas-relief.

La ville de Grenade se divise en quatre districts, distingués par des noms différens. Le premier est proprement ce qu'on appelle Grenade. Le second est Alhambra; le troisieme, Alvesin; et le quatrième, Antiquerula: ils renferment dans leur enceinte des monumens antiques d'une magnificence et d'un beauté au-dessus de toute description. L'amphithéâtre pour les combats de taureaux, qu'on regarde comme le plus beau qu'il y ait en Espagne, est en pierre de taille. Sur les côtes de la mer l'œil étonné découvre des montagnes escarpées et sourcilieuses, entre lesquelles sont des vallées fertiles et délicieuses où l'on a, outre un climat tres-sain, les fruits les plus exquis et les plus riches productions de la nature. Celles de ces montagnes qui sont connues sous le nom d'Alpuxaras, sont si élevées, que de leur sommet on découvre non-seulement le détroit de Gibraltar, mais de plus toute la côte de Barbarie, et les villes de Tanger et de Ceuta. En un mot la ville de Grenade est agréable sous tous les rapports. Pendant les mois de l'été l'air y est sans cesse tempéré par des zéphirs rafraichissans; la neige qui couvre le sommet des montagnes est sous la main pour rafraichir les vins, et dix mille fontaines versent leurs eaux limpides dans l'intérieur ou tout près de la ville. Comme les habitans de Grenade sont instruits à élever une grande quantité de vers à soie, ils sont tres-industrieux, et ont plusieurs manufactures, où ils tissent et teignent la soie que ces petits animaux produisent.



H. Swinburne del.

Mollard sculp.

THE MOORISH QUEEN'S PRIVATE APARTMENT
IN THE ALHAMBRA.

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TOLEDO.

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TOLEDO.

THE city of Toledo is memorable for its antiquity, as well as for being the richest archbishopric in the kingdom; and formerly the capital of New Castile, till Madrid was made the metropolis of all Spain. It is built upon an extensive eminence, the extremes of which, toward the river Tagus, are high and craggy rocks, particularly on the side of the palace, which stands on the highest point of all. The land side is fortified with an old double wall, flanked with one hundred and fifty square and semicircular towers, the outermost of which were built by Bamba, one of their Gothic kings, in the year 675.

This fine old city contains seventeen squares, and a great number of elegant houses. The palace, standing upon the highest part of the rock, commands a delightful view of the river, the city, and the country, which is much enriched by the Tagus flowing through it. From the PLAZA MAYOR, or principal square, built with porticoes, and adorned with handsome balconies, you ascend to the palace, which consists of a square building, so large, that it is capable of containing all the king's household. The inside of this court is 160 feet long, and 130 broad, with a colonnade of granite pillars; and the outward angles of the building consist of four large pavilions. This noble palace stands 450 feet above the river, from which they formerly raised water to it by a machine, invented by Joanello, an artist from Cremona. Contiguous to the palace is the king's armoury, where a number of curiosities are seen, and ancient armour; among others, the armour of Charles V, of Philip II, of Philip III, and of Philip IV.

The cathedral of Toledo, the richest and most considerable in the kingdom, is adorned with several lofty doors of bronze, and a very high tower. It has also a great many richly ornamented chapels, with curious tombs in them, particularly that appropriated for the interment of the archbishops. Near the cathedral is the archbishop's palace, which is very ancient, magnificent, and solemn.

In the city are thirty-eight religious houses, many of them containing very fine pictures, and other curiosities, which, exclusive of the treasury, and other rarities, would be tedious to enumerate. Toledo has also a university, a fine library, twenty-seven parish churches, and twenty-eight hospitals. The river Tagus has here three bridges over it, two of which are long and high, being placed where the bed of the river is very deep, with its sides abrupt and rocky.

The people are industrious, and have numerous manufactories, since they reckon no less than ten thousand weavers in silk and cloth. Beside which, their sword blades are the most esteemed of any in Spain, their temper being so excellent, that it is said they will cut iron; of course the price is proportionate to their goodness, in so much, that they have occasionally been valued at twenty or thirty pistoles. The gentlemen and ladies of this city were reputed to have the most wit of any in Spain, and the Castilian language was spoken there in the greatest purity.

Without the city are the remains of an ancient amphitheatre, and other antiquities. On the whole, the country around is pleasant, and the air dry and pure, it seldom raining in these parts; for which reason it was formerly the favourite city of the Castilians, and the residence of the court.

TOLEDE.

LA ville de Tolède est remarquable tant à cause de son antiquité, que parce qu'elle est le siège de plus riche archevêché du royaume, et qu'elle a été la capitale de la Nouvelle Castille, jusqu'à ce que Madrid est devenu la metropole de toute l'Espagne. Elle est bâtie sur une éminence étendue, dont les extrémités vers le Tage sont des rochers élevés et sourcilleux, surtout du côté du palais, qui en occupe la partie la plus haute. Du côté de la terre, elle est fortifiée d'une double vieille muraille, flanquée de 150 tours carrées ou en demi-cercle: Bamba, un des rois Goths, fit élever les plus extérieures, en 675.

Cette belle ancienne ville renferme 17 places, et un grand nombre de jolies maisons. Le palais, qui est situé sur la partie la plus élevée du rocher, commande une vue délicieuse du fleuve, de la ville, et de la campagne, qu'enrichit beaucoup le Tage, qui y coule. Da la PLAZA MAYOR, ou place principale, entourée de portiques, ornés de beaux balcons, on monte au palais, qui est un bâtiment carré si considérable, qu'il peut contenir toute la maison du roi. La court interieure a cent soixante pieds de longueur sur cent trente de largeur, avec des colonnes de granit tout autour, et les angles extérieurs du bâtiment consistent en quatre grands pavillons. Ce beau palais est élevé de 450 pieds au-dessus du niveau du fleuve, dont autrefois on y faisoit remonter l'eau à l'aide d'une machine, inventée par Joanello, artiste de Crémone. Tout proche du palais est l'arsenal du roi, où l'on voit beaucoup de curiosités et d'anciennes armures, entr'autres celles de Charles V, de Philippe II, de Philippe III, et de Philippe IV.

La cathedrale de Tolède, la plus riche et la plus considérable du royaume, est ornée de plusieurs grandes portes de bronze, et d'une tour très-élevée. Elle renferme aussi plusieurs chapelles richement décorées, où sont des tombeaux curieux, surtout celui destiné à la sépulture des archevêques. Près de la cathedrale est le palais archiépiscopal, qui est ancien, magnifique, et imposant.

Il y a dans la ville 38 maisons religieuses, dont quelques-unes, outre le trésor, et d'autres raretés, possèdent de beaux tableaux et de choses curieuses dont le détail seroit ennuyeux. Tolède a aussi une université, une belle bibliothèque, 27 églises paroissiales, et 28 hôpitaux. Il y a trois ponts sur le Tage, dont deux bâtis dans des endroits où le fleuve a beaucoup de profondeur et pour bordes de chaque côté des rochers escarpés, sont très-longs et très-élevés.

Les habitans y sont industrieux et ont un grand nombre de manufactures, puisqu'on n'y compte pas moins de dix mille tissérands en soie et en drap: de plus les lames d'épées qu'on y fabrique passent pour les meilleures de l'Espagne, la trempe en étant si excellente, qu'on dit qu'elles couperoient le fer: en conséquence le prix en est proportionné à la bonté, en sorte que, dans quelques occasions, elles ont été vendues vingt et trente pistoles. Les gens comme il faut et les dames de cette ville ont toujours passé pour ceux de toute l'Espagne qui ont le plus d'esprit, et la langue Castellane y a toujours été parlée avec la plus grande pureté.

Hors de la ville, on voit les restes d'un ancien amphithéâtre, et d'autres antiquités. En général la campagne d'alentour est agréable, et, comme il n'y pleut que rarement, l'air y est sec et pur: aussi cette ville a-t-elle été autrefois la demeure favorite des Castellans, et la résidence de la cour.

MALAGA.

THE ancient city of Malaga, seated on the shore of the Mediterranean sea, is a fortified sea-port in the kingdom of Granada, 266 miles to the south of Madrid. That it was founded in a remote period, cannot be questioned; and the antiquaries affirm, that it was built by the Phœnicians 800 years before the Christian era. It stands at the foot of a very steep mountain, upon which are two old castles. One, which crowns the summit of the mountain, is called GIBRALFARO, and was built in the year 1280 by a Moorish governor. The other castle, called ALCAZABA, stands but a little above the city, and is very strong of its kind, having a double wall, flanked by a hundred and ten towers.

Malaga is a bishop's see. Its cathedral is a modern building of white marble, and deemed one of the handsomest in Spain. It is in reality a stupendous pile, begun by Philip II, while married to Mary queen of England, and their united arms are still to be seen over the door. It is said by some to be as large as St. Paul's in London.

This populous and well-built city is of a circular form, surrounded by a double wall, with stately towers, and nine gates. On one side the sea washes its walls; and on the other runs the little river *Quadalquivirite*, over which there is a handsome bridge. A good harbour renders this city a considerable place of trade; and it is much frequented by the English, who send many ships hither annually for cargoes of wine and fruit. The port is rendered safe and commodious by means of a fine mole and quay of 700 yards in length, with stairs for taking water, and several short stout pillars of jasper, to which ships are made fast by hawsers. It has also a chapel upon it, for the accommodation of seafaring people.

The country and grounds all round being covered with vines, and the greatest variety of delicious fruits, yield a very luxuriant and beautiful prospect, both from the land and the sea. Its choice wines, raisins, oranges, lemons, almonds, and figs, are well known, from the great quantities imported into England. Other foreign nations likewise trade largely at this port, whence it enjoys a considerable share of opulence. The wine we term mountain, which was once in considerable repute in this country, and of which the consumption was consequently great, though of late other white wines have become more fashionable among us, is the produce of the vineyards on the hilly country in the vicinity of this city. Their cultivation requires but little trouble; for the vines are planted in rows, without props; the intervals are ploughed with oxen once a year, and the shoots are pruned, which is almost all the dressing employed on them. Formerly ten thousand butts of wine were shipped from this port every year; but the quantity is now considerably diminished. The grapes of which the choicest raisins are made have the stem half cut through, and in this state they are left four days to dry and candy in the sun, before they are finally gathered.

The mountains that surround the town, though they much increase the beauty of the prospect, render the place insufferably hot during the greater part of the year. To an unreflecting stranger, too, the narrowness of its streets might be deemed an inconvenience; but this, on the contrary, is an advantage, for it renders the current of air through them more brisk, and admits less sun. In winter, however, it is a delightful retreat for those who wish to enjoy summer all the year round, as you may here find the gardens adorned with roses in full bloom in the month of January, and have the sense of smell regaled with the fragrance of the orange-groves.

MALAGA.

L'ANCIENNE ville de Malaga, sur les bords de la Méditerranée, est un port de mer fortifié du royaume de Grenade, à deux cent soixante-six miles au sud de Madrid. Il n'est pas douteux que la fondation n'en remonte à un période de temps reculé, et les antiquaires assurent qu'elle fut bâtie par les Phéniciens 800 ans avant l'ère Chrétienne. Elle est située au pied d'une montagne très-roide, sur laquelle il y a deux vieux châteaux. Celui qui est sur le sommet de la montagne se nomme Gibralfaro, et a été bâti en 1280 par un gouverneur Moresque. L'autre, appelé Alcazaba, est très-peu au-dessus de la ville, et est très-fort en son genre, ayant une double muraille flanquée de cent dix tours.

Malaga est le siège d'un évêché : la cathédrale est un bâtiment moderne de marbre blanc, et est regardée comme la plus belle qu'il y ait en Espagne; et véritablement c'est un vaste édifice, commencé par Philippe II, depuis son mariage avec Marie, reine d'Angleterre. Leurs armes réunies se voient encore au-dessus de la porte. Quelques personnes disent qu'elle est aussi grande que celle de Saint-Paul à Londres.

Cette ville, peuplée et bien bâtie, est de forme circulaire, et entourée d'une double muraille avec des grandes tours et neuf portes. D'un côté la mer en baigne les murs; et de l'autre coule la petite rivière du Guadalquiviero, sur laquelle il y a un beau pont. Un bon port fait de cette ville une place considérable de commerce, et où les négocians Anglois envoient tous les ans beaucoup de vaisseaux pour en rapporter des cargaisons de vin et de fruits. On a rendu le port sûr et commode par le moyen d'un beau môle et d'un quai de 350 toises de longueur, avec des escaliers pour aller prendre de l'eau, et plusieurs courtes et grosses colonnes de jaspe, auxquelles les vaisseaux sont amarrés. Il y a aussi une chapelle pour la commodité des employés au service du port.

La campagne et les terres des environs étant couvertes de vignes et d'une très-grande variété de fruits délicieux, présentent le magnifique tableau d'une extrême fécondité, soit qu'on prenne le point de vue sur terre ou sur mer. Les meilleures qualités de vins, de raisins, d'oranges, de citrons, d'amandes, et de figues, qu'on y recueille, sont très-connues en Angleterre, à cause de la grande quantité qu'on y en importe. D'autres nations étrangères font également un grand commerce dans ce port, ce qui y répand une grande opulence. Le vin que nous nommons de la montagne, qui a été autrefois très prisé dans ce pays-ci et dont en conséquence la consommation étoit très considérable, quoique d'autres vins blancs soient depuis peu devenus plus à la mode parmi nous, est le produit des vignobles situés sur les coteaux qui sont dans le voisinage de la ville. Leur culture exige peu de peine : comme les ceps de vigne sont plantés en rayons et sont sans échelas, on n'a besoin tous les ans que d'en labourer une fois tous les intervalles avec des bœufs, et que d'en couper les sarmens : c'est là presque tout le travail qu'on y fait. Autrefois on exportoit tous les ans de ce port dix mille bottes de vin : mais cette quantité est à présent bien diminuée. On coupe à demi la queue des grappes dont on fait les meilleurs raisins secs, et on les laisse en cet état quatre jours sécher et se candir au soleil, avant que de les cueillir.

Quoique les montagnes qui environnent la ville ajoutent beaucoup à la beauté de la perspective, elles y causent une chaleur insupportable pendant la plus grande partie de l'année. Un étranger, qui ne réfléchit pas, peut aussi regarder comme un inconvénient le peu de largeur des rues, mais c'est au contraire un avantage, parce que le courant d'air en a plus de force, et que le soleil y pénètre moins. En hiver, cependant, cette ville est un séjour délicieux, pour ceux qui aiment à jouir de l'été pendant toute l'année, puisqu'au mois de Janvier les rosiers y sont en pleine fleurs et que l'odorat y est agréablement flatté du parfum qu'exhalent des bois d'orangers.

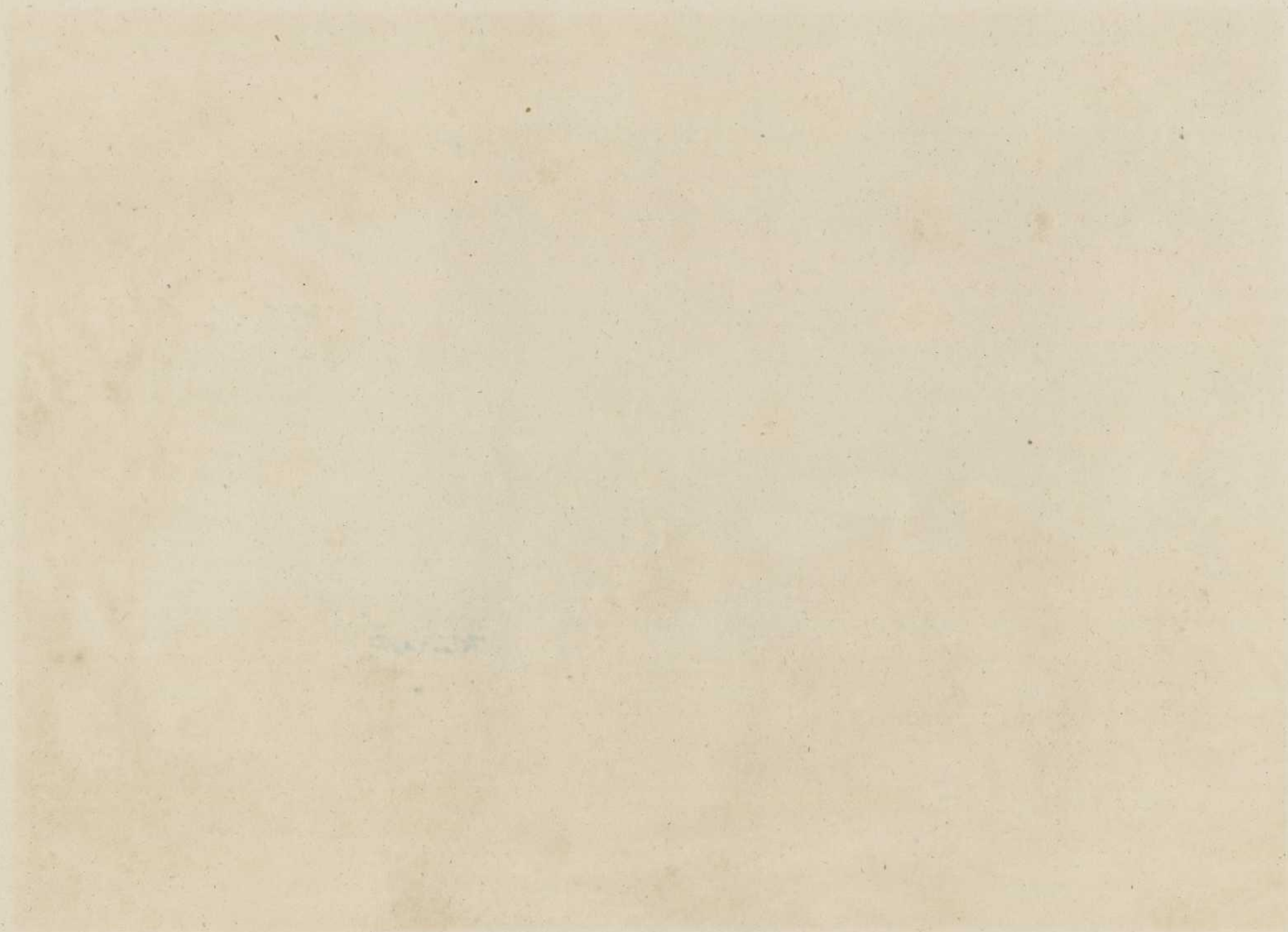


H. Scudmore del.

J. Goussier sculp.

MALAGA.

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SWINBURNE'S
PICTURESQUE TOUR
THROUGH
SPAIN.

AS the traveller enters Spain on that side which skirts the Mediterranean, Perpignan is the last town on the French side of the Pyrenees, and there he must make his arrangements for passing those celebrated mountains, that divide the two kingdoms.

There is not a more barren country on the face of the earth, than that between Narbonne and Rivesaltes, a village near Perpignan, famous for its muscadine wine; yet among the stones, and through the crannies of the rocks, shoot up innumerable tribes of aromatic plants, on which the eye of a botanist would feast with rapture. The superior excellence of the Narbonne honey is, no doubt, owing to this profusion of strong-scented flowers, on which the bees feed.

The bay of Leucate, and the plains that stretch out from the sea to the foot of the Pyrenean mountains, form a noble sweep, that bears some resemblance to the gulf of Naples. But Perpignan itself is an ugly town, on the skirts of an extensive flat, that has just olive woods enough to make a tolerable appearance from the ramparts. The grounds are enclosed with the tall yellow-flowering aloe.

A few miles from the mountains that separate the department of the Eastern Pyrenees (formerly Roussillon) from Catalonia, is the village of Boulou, with a poor inn on the banks of the Tech, a broad torrent, very dangerous after rain.

The mountains here are of no very considerable elevation. The road over the pass is a noble work, and reflects great honour on the engineer who planned it. It is now very wide; the rocks are blasted, and spread out, and bridges are laid over the hollows, which formerly were very dangerous precipices. It then required the strength of thirty men to support, and almost as many oxen to drag up a carriage, which four horses now draw with ease.

Exactly on the limits of France, in the highest part of the pass, stands the fort of Bellegarde, on a round hill, commanding a boundless view over both kingdoms: an officer of invalides has a lodge below, where he examines and signs the passports.

Near la Junquera, the first town on the Spanish side, a bloody battle was fought in 920, between the Christians and Moors, in which the former were defeated with great slaughter. This was once a considerable city, a colony of the Massilians, or people of Marseilles, and af-

terward an episcopal see: but now it is a paltry village, subsisting on what little is spent in it by passengers, and on the produce of the cork-woods, which seem to turn to good account. The surrounding mountains are covered with these trees; most of them are of great size and age: their trunks, when stripped of the bark, are of a dusky red colour: the operation of peeling them cannot be repeated above once in seven or eight years; but in the southern parts of Spain, they do it every fifth year.

Hence to Figuera, an ugly straggling town, the country improves every step; the hills are clothed with evergreen woods; the plains, in the finest cultivation, are divided by hedges of aloe, christ-thorn, or wild pomegranate. The inhabitants are well-clad, good-looking fellows: the women much comelier than their neighbours on the French side of the Pyrenees. Ferdinand the Sixth began a spacious fortress above Figuera, capable of containing 12000 men.

The road to Girona is very pleasant, through a well laid out country, diversified with fertile plains, and gentle eminences crowned with evergreen oaks and pines. The view stretches down over the olive plantations, in the low grounds, as far as the sea; slender towers on the points of the rocks, and white steeples rising out of the woods, add great life to this charming scene.

In every village the people are busily employed in making ropes, baskets, and shoes, of a small rush or reed called *esparto*.

Girona is a large clean city, with some good streets; but poorly inhabited, and for the most part gloomy. The churches are darker than caverns; the gothic cathedral is grand, but so very dark at the upper end, that but for the glimmering of two smoky lamps you would not discover that the canopy and altar are of massy silver.

The road beyond Girona is very hilly, and passes through the most savage wilds in nature: nothing but mountains upon mountains, covered with pines; a rambling sandy river fills up the hollows, winding through all the turns of the hanging woods and narrow dells: a slight track on the sand is the only thing that conveys any idea of the footsteps of man. The castle of Hostalric, a modern fortress, commands the outlet of this desert, and overlooks the turrets and walls of an old ruinous village, wildly situate on the brink of a precipice.

The mode of drinking in this country is singular: they hold a broad-bottomed glass bottle at arm's length, and let the liquor spout out of a long neck upon their tongue: from what I see, their expertness at this exercise arises from frequent practice; for the Catalans drink often, and in large quantities, but I have not yet seen any of them intoxicated.

The cross roads in Sussex are not worse than those that lead to Barcelona, and one pass has the expressive name of *el Purgatorio*. But the prospects on each side of the way are for the greatest part delightful; and nothing can be more agreeable to the eye than the gothic steeples towering above the dark pine-groves, the bold ruins of la Rocca, and the rich fields on the banks of the Besos.

The city of Barcelona is a sweet spot; the air equals in purity, and much excels in mildness, the boasted climate of Montpellier. Except in the dog-days, they have green peas all the year round. The situation is beautiful, the appearance both from land and sea remarkably picturesque. A great extent of fruitful plains, bounded by an amphitheatre of hills, backs it on the west side: the mountain of Montjuich defends it on the south from the unwholesome winds that blow over the marshes at the mouth of the Llobregat; to the northward, the coast projecting into the sea forms a noble bay; it has the Mediterranean to close the prospect to the east. The environs are in a state of high cultivation, studded with villages, country-houses, and gardens.

The form of Barcelona is almost circular, the Roman town being on the highest ground in the centre of the new one; the ancient walls are still visible in several places, but the sea has retired many hundreds of yards from the port gates: one of the principal gothic churches, and a whole quarter of the city, stand upon the sands that were once the bottom of the harbour. The immense loads of sand hurried down into the sea by the rivers, and thrown back by wind and current into this haven, will, in all probability, choak it quite up, unless more diligence be used in preventing the gathering of the shoals. A southerly wind brings in the sand, and already a deep-loaded vessel finds it dangerous to pass over the bar. Some years ago a company of Dutch and English adventurers offered to bring the river into the port by means of a canal, if government would allow them a free importation for ten years. This project might have cleared away the sand-banks, but might also have given a fatal check to the infant manufactures of the country, for which reason the proposal was rejected. The port is handsome; the mole is all of hewn stone, a masterpiece of solidity and convenience. Above is a platform for carriages; below, vast magazines, with a broad quay reaching from the city gates to the lighthouse. This was done by the orders of the late marquis de la Mina, captain general of the principality, where his memory is held in greater veneration than at the court of Madrid. He governed Catalonia many years, more like an independent sovereign, than like a subject invested with a delegated authority. Great are the obligations Barcelona has to him; he cleansed and beautified its streets, built useful edifices, and forwarded its trade and manufactures, without much extraordinary expense to the province; for he had more resources, and made money go farther than most other governors can do, or indeed wish to do. On the neck of land that runs into the sea, and forms the port, he pulled down some fishermen's huts, and in 1752 began to build Barceloneta, a regular town, consisting of about two thousand brick houses, quarters for a regiment, and a church, in which his ashes are deposited under a tasteless monument. As the land was given gratis, the houses were soon run up on a regular

plan; a ground-floor and one story above, with three windows in front, and a pediment over them; the whole consisting of about twenty streets, and containing near ten thousand inhabitants.

The lighthouse at the end of the pier is a slender tower, near which ships lie when they perform quarantine. The old one stood much nearer the land, but was swept away in a dreadful hurricane.

Another of la Mina's improvements is the rampart or great walk upon the walls, extending the whole length of the harbour. It is all built upon arches, with magazines below, and a broad coach-road and foot-path above, raised to the level of the first floor of the houses in the adjoining street. In clear, warm evenings, it is very pleasant to walk along this pavement, to the arsenal at the south-east angle of the city.

At this corner the rampart joins the Rambla, a long irregular street, which they have begun to level and widen, with the intention of planting an avenue down the middle. Here the ladies parade in their coaches, and sometimes go quite round the city upon the walls, which are of brick, lately repaired and enlarged. The drive is charming, having a sweet country on one side, and on the other, clusters of small gardens and orange-yards. You descend at the north gate into a very spacious square before the citadel, just where the grand breach was made when the duke of Berwick besieged the town.

The citadel has six strong bastions, calculated to overawe the inhabitants, at least as much as to defend them from a foreign enemy. The lowness of its situation renders it damp, unwholesome, and swarming with moschettoes.

The streets of Barcelona are narrow, but well paved; a covered drain in the middle of each street carries off the filth and rain water. At night they are tolerably well lighted up, but long before day-break every lamp is out. The houses are lofty and plain. To each kind of trade a particular district is allotted.

The principal edifices are, the cathedral, Santa Maria, the general's palace, and the exchange. The architecture of the cathedral is a light gothic, which, in the ornaments of the cloisters, is inimitably airy. The stalls of the choir are neatly carved, and hung with escutcheons of princes and noblemen, among which are the arms of our Henry the Eighth. The double arches under the belfry are deservedly admired, for bearing on their centre the whole weight of two enormous towers. In the cloisters various kinds of foreign birds are kept, upon funds bequeathed for this purpose by a wealthy canon. I could not learn what motives induced him to make so whimsical a devise.

Santa Maria is also a gothic pile.

The palace is square and low, without out-courts or gardens, and contains nothing worthy of remark but a noble ball-room.

The Roman antiquities in this city are, 1. A mosaic pavement, in which are represented two large green figures of Tritons, holding a shell in each hand; between them a seahorse, and on the sides a serpent and a dolphin. The common opinion is, that this church was a temple of Esculapius; but the ornaments seem to prove very clearly, that it belonged to some fane dedicated to Neptune. 2. Many vaults and cellars of Roman construction. 3. The arch-deaconry, once the palace of the prætor or Roman governor. The solidity of the walls, and the regularity of the work, support this tradition; but there is neither grandeur nor ele-

gance to recommend it to notice ; and some medallions and inscriptions fixed in the wall, apparently at the time of its erection, rather invalidate the idea of such remote antiquity. 4. In the yard, a beautiful cistern, or rather sarcophagus, which now serves as a watering-trough for mules. They call it the coffin of Pompey's father, and it may as well be his as that of any one else, for we have no proof to the contrary. A large bass-relief runs round it, of hunters, dogs, and wild beasts. The chief person is on horseback, bareheaded, in a military dress. The figures and animals are executed in a masterly style, and the whole is a fine monument of antiquity. 5. In the house belonging to the family of Pinos, which was almost levelled to the ground by the bombs during the siege, are many excellent busts and medallions. An *Augustus Pater*, with a *corona radialis*, a small elegant Bacchus, and a woman holding a rabbit, supposed to represent Spain, the provincia cunicularis, are the most remarkable. The owners of this house have always remained so true to their principles in politics, that they have constantly resided in a poor dwelling hard by, and left their palace in ruins, as a *memento* to their fellow-citizens, and a monument of their own spirit and misfortunes.

Montjuich, a name corrupted either from *Mons Jovis*, or *Mons Judaicus*, is a mountain that stands single, on the south-west point of Barcelona. This eminence is happily placed for the city, as it intercepts and dissipates the putrid exhalations pumped up by the sun from the ponds near the Llobregat, which are sometimes so strong as to affect with great violence the centinels on duty. The extent of its basis is very great. Large crops of wheat are reaped on the north and east sides, and all bought up at a high price for seed-corn, the quality being particularly sound. A good deal of strong wine is made on the south-east angle; but it is said to be medicated with lime and mahogany chips, to give it spirit and colour. The face of the mountain toward the sea is already by nature, or soon will be made by art, an insurmountable precipice. The road up to the top is very steep; about half way is the ancient burial-place of the Jews, where many large stones, with Hebrew inscriptions, are still lying scattered about the field.

Every part of the old castle is destroyed, and large works in the modern manner built upon its foundations, on the crown of the hill. Hence you command a view over the coast, plain, and harbour; not a house in Barcelona but lies exposed to your sight. They are sloping off the glacis at an incredible expense, so that no approaches can be made under shelter, as every part is open, and liable to be raked by the cannon of the batteries. All the walls are of stone, and multiplied to an extravagant number. Spain cannot afford men to garrison such overgrown fortresses.

The main body of the place is bomb-proof, very neatly finished; two stone staircases, with iron railing fit for a palace, lead down to the vaulted quarters for the soldiers, which are near four hundred yards long. One of the principal bastions is scooped out into a cistern capable of containing seventy thousand cubic feet of water, of which only a small quantity is let off at a time into a draw-well, to prevent any traitor from poisoning the stock of water. Above the quarters is a grand terrace round a court, with turrets at each angle. On the centre of the south line stands the tower of signals: if one ship appear, a basket is hung out; if two or more, it is raised higher; and if a Spanish man of war, they hoist a flag.

This castle has already cost immense sums in the space of fifteen years, and in all probability will not be finished in as many more, though above three hundred workmen are employed

at the works. Each new engineer alters the plan and counteracts the scheme of his predecessor, which occasions such a delay and waste of treasure as is scarce to be credited.

Beside the inconvenience of requiring so large a garrison, the situation appears too elevated to annoy an enemy encamped in the plain.

The road from Barcelona to Montserrat for about five or six miles is finished with a magnificence equal to the best in France, but after this it relapses into its original state: however, though rough for carriages, it is very soft and pleasant for riding. The country up the Llobregat is well cultivated, but subject to frequent inundations, that make cruel havoc. As you approach the mountain, the number of vineyards diminishes, that of olive-grounds increases.

At Martorel, a large town, where much black lace is manufactured, is a very high bridge with gothic arches, built in 1768, as we are informed by the inscription, out of the ruins of a decayed one, that had existed 1985 years from its erection by Hannibal, in the 535th year of Rome. At the north end is a triumphal arch or gateway, said to have been raised by that general in honour of his father Hamilcar. It is almost entire, well proportioned, and simple, without any kind of ornament, except a rim or two of hewn stone. The large stone-casing is almost all fallen off.

The mountain of Montserrat is one of the most singular in the world, for situation, shape, and composition. It stands single, towering over a hilly country, like a pile of grotto work or gothic spires. Its height is about three thousand three hundred feet.

The road for carriages winds quite round, and requires half a day's travelling. That for mules is shorter and more steep. After two hours tedious ride from east to west, up a narrow path cut out of the sides of gullies and precipices, you reach the highest part of the road; and, turning round the easternmost point of the mountain, near the deserted hermitage of St. Michael, you come in sight of the convent, placed in a nook of the mountain. It seems as if vast torrents of water, or some violent convulsion of nature, had split the eastern face of Montserrat, and formed in the cleft a sufficient platform to build the monastery upon. The Llobregat roars at the bottom; and perpendicular walls of rock, of prodigious height, rise from the water's edge near half way up the mountain. Upon these masses of white stone rests the small piece of level ground, which the monks inhabit. Close behind the abbey, and in some parts impending over it, huge cliffs shoot up in a semicircle to a stupendous elevation; their summits are split into sharp cones, pillars, pipes, and other odd shapes, blanched and bare; but the interstices are filled up with forests of evergreen and deciduous trees and plants. Fifteen hermitages are placed among the woods; nay, some of them on the very pinnacles of the rocks, and in cavities hewn out of the loftiest of these pyramids. The prospect is not only astonishing, but absolutely unnatural. These rocks are composed of limestones of different colours, glued together by a sand, and a yellow calcareous earth. In some parts they consist of freestone and white quartz, mixed with some touchstone. There may perhaps be reason to suspect fire to have been a principal agent in the formation of this insulated mountain.

This is one of the forty-five religious houses of the Spanish congregation of the order of Saint Benedict; their general chapter is held every fourth year at Valladolid, where the deputies choose abbots and other dignitaries for the ensuing quadrennium. In this monastery, they elect for abbot a Catalan and a Castilian alternately. Their possessions are great, consisting of nine villages lying to the south of the mountain; but the king has lately curtailed their in-

come about six thousand livres a year, by appropriating to his own use the best house in each village, some of which, with their tithes, are worth 200 dollars per annum. Their original foundation, in 866, gave them nothing but the mountain; and to donations and economy they owe the great increase of their landed property. They are bound to feed and harbour, for three days, all pilgrims that come up to pay their homage to the Virgin; the allowance is a luncheon of bread in the morning, as much more, with broth, at noon, and bread again at night. About three years ago, the king proposed to them to abolish this obligation of hospitality, on condition that the convent should subscribe a fixed sum toward the establishment of a poor-house in Barcelona. The principals of the abbey were inclined to accept of the proposal, but the mob of monks opposed it vehemently; and such a scheme being very contrary to the interests of the miraculous image, she resented it highly, and, according to her old custom, vanished in anger from the altar. Soon after, she was discovered in the cave where she was originally found; nor would she stir, till the intended innovation was over-ruled. It was thought expedient to wink at this juggling, not to alarm the common people, who are not sufficiently enlightened to see through such gross impositions.

The number of professed monks is 76, of lay-brothers 28, and of singing-boys 25, beside a physician, surgeon, and servants.

The church is gloomy, and the gilding much sullied with the smoke of eighty-five lamps of silver, of various forms and sizes, that hang round the cornice of the sanctuary. Funds have been bequeathed by different devotees for furnishing them with oil.

The choir above stairs is decorated with the life of Christ in good wooden carving. A gallery runs on each side of the chancel for the convenience of the monks. A large iron grate divides the church from the chapel of the Virgin, where the image stands, in a nich over the altar, before which burn four tapers in large silver candlesticks, the present of the duke of Medina Celi. In the sacristy, and passages leading to it, are presses and cupboards full of relics and ornaments, of gold, silver, and precious stones; they pointed out to us, as the most remarkable, two crowns for the Virgin and her Son, of inestimable value, some large diamond rings, an excellent cameo of Medusa's head, the Roman emperors in alabaster, the sword of Saint Ignatius, and the chest that contains the ashes of a famous brother, John Guarin, of whom they relate the same story as that given in the Spectator of a Turkish santon and the sultan's daughter. They differ however in the following circumstance:—The Catalan anchorite repents of his crime, and lives seven years on all fours like a wild beast. The earl of Barcelona, whose daughter John had ravished and murdered, catches the savage in his hunting-toils, and brings him as a show to the city; when behold! the earl's son, only a month old, speaks aloud, and bids John arise, for his sins are forgiven. The easy prince pardons him also, and all of them go in quest of the body of the princess. To their great astonishment, they meet her restored to life by the Virgin Mary, and as beautiful and young as ever. It is not said that she recovered her virginity; that is a miracle never once attempted by any saint in the calendar: however, she liked the mountain so well, that she there founded a monastery, in which she ended her days as a nun.

Immense is the quantity of votive offerings to this miraculous statue; and, as nothing can be rejected or otherwise disposed of, the shelves are crowded with most whimsical *Ex votos*,

viz. silver legs, fingers, breasts, ear-rings, watches, two-wheeled chaises, boats, carts, and such trumpery.

From the sacristy you ascend to the *Camarines*, small rooms behind the high altar, hung with paintings, several of which are very good. A strong silver-plated door being thrown open, you are bidden to lean forward, and kiss the hand of *Nuestra Senora*. It is half worn away by the eager kisses of its votaries; but it is difficult to ascertain whether it be marble or silver, as it is painted black. The face of the mother is regularly handsome, but the colour of a negro woman.

The shortest way from the convent to the hermitages is up a crevice between two huge masses of rock, where in rainy weather the waters dash down in furious torrents. There are six hundred holes or steps, so steep and perpendicular, that from below you cannot discern the least track. A hand-rail, and a few seats to take breath upon, enable the traveller to perform this scalade. Soon after you arrive, through a wilderness of evergreens, at the narrow platform where the first hermit dwells. His cells, kitchen, chapel, and gardens, are admirably neat and romantic, built upon various patches of level on the tops of the precipices. The view from it is wild, and in a fine clear morning delightful. The hermits are all clad in brown habits, and wear long beards; their way of life is uncomfortable, and their respective limits very much confined. They rise at two every morning, ring out their bell, and pray till it is time to go to mass at the hermitage, called the *Parish*; it is always said at break of day: some of them have above two hours walk down to it. The convent allows them bread, wine, salt, oil, one pair of shoes, and one pair of stockings a year, with twenty-five reals a month for other necessities. A couple of men are kept to assist them in their labour, each in their turn. A mule carries up their provisions twice a week, and is occasionally driven to Barcelona for salt fish, and other things, which they buy by clubbing together. They get some helps from the convent, in return for flowers, greens, &c. which they send down as presents. They never eat meat, or converse with each other: their noviceship is very severe, for they must undergo six months service in the infirmary of the abbey, one year among the novices, and six years farther trial, before they are suffered to go up to a hermitage; which they cannot obtain but by the unanimous consent of the whole chapter. They make every vow of the monks, and, over and above, one of never quitting the mountain; but none of them are allowed to enter into orders. Their first habitation is always the most remote from the convent, and they descend as vacancies happen in the lower cells.

Wherever the winding paths are level, nothing can be more agreeable than to saunter through the close woods and sweet wildernesses, that fill up the spaces between the rocks. It is impossible to give the reader an adequate idea of the sublime views and uncouth appearance of the different parts of the mountain; a painter or a botanist might wander here many days with pleasure and profit. There are few evergreens in Europe, that may not be found here, beside a great variety of deciduous plants. The apothecary of the house has a list of four hundred and thirty-seven species of plants, and forty of trees. The greatest hardship here is a scarcity of good water. Except one spring at the parish, and another at the convent, they have no other than cistern-water, and that bad enough. This in summer is a terrible inconvenience, and gives the lie to the florid descriptions some have penned of the purling streams and beautiful cascades tumbling down on every side from the broken rocks. The want of

water is so great, that neither wolf, bear, nor other wild beast, is ever seen on the mountain.

The second hermitage stands on a point of the rock, over a precipice that descends almost to the very bed of the river. The prospect is inimitably grand, extending over the northern and eastern parts of the province, which are very hilly and bare, bounded by the mountains of Roussillon. The true Pyreneans appear only through some breaks in that chain. Manresa, where Inigo de Loyola made his first spiritual retreat, is the principal town in the view. In a clear day the island of Majorca, which is one hundred and eighty-one miles distant, can be seen from it. Upon the round rock, that hangs over the hermit's cell, was formerly a castle, with its cisterns and draw-bridge, where some banditti harboured. From this strong hold they made excursions to pillage the neighbouring vallies. By rolling down stones, they kept the monks in perpetual alarm, and obliged them to send up whatever provision was wanted in the garrison. At last, a few miquelets climbed up the rock from tree to tree, like so many squirrels, surprised the fort, and destroyed this nest of robbers. In commemoration of this event, the hermitage is dedicated to Saint Dimas, the good thief in the Gospel.

At la Trinidad, the next cell, the monks by turns go up to pass a few days in summer by way of recreation. The hermit has many rooms, and is allowed a boy to wait upon him.

Catalonia is almost throughout extremely mountainous. The nature of the country appears to have great influence on that of the inhabitants, who are a hardy, active, industrious race, of a middle size, brown complexion, and strong features; their limbs well knit together, and by education and practice inured to the greatest fatigues; there are few lame or distorted persons, or beggars, to be met with among them. Their *mocos* or mule-boys are stout walkers; some of them have been known to go from Barcelona to Madrid, and back again, in nine days, which by the high road is six hundred miles.

The loss of all their immunities, the ignominious prohibition of every weapon, even a knife, and an enormous load of taxes, have not been able to stifle their independent spirit, which breaks out upon the least stretch of arbitrary power; but within these few years, many of their ancient privileges have been gradually restored; and this is at present one of the most flourishing provinces of Spain. Their taxation is still very high. All trade is assessed according to the business you are supposed to transact in the course of the year, without regard to your loss or gain. One mode of collecting the revenue is somewhat singular:—the intendant (who manages all the finances, and, beside numberless emoluments and secret profits, receives one third of all seizures of contraband goods) has a certain number of clerks or apprentices, with a stipend for each allowed by the king. These young men are sent out into the villages to gather the taxes; an operation which they spin out to the utmost, as their profits, and those of their master, are increased by every delay, the communities being obliged to find them food, lodging, and two pesos a day. When the peasantry of a place proves refractory or dilatory in its payment, an order is given by the treasurer to an officer, who goes with his soldiers to the spot, to receive his own and his regiment's pay, and live at discretion upon the poor wretches, until full satisfaction is made.

Among other restrictions, the use of slouched hats, white shoes, and large brown cloaks, is forbidden. Till of late, they durst not carry any kind of knife; but in each public-house there

was one chained to the table for the use of all comers. The good order maintained by the police, and the vigilance of the thieftakers, supply the place of defensive weapons, robberies and murders being seldom heard of; you may walk the streets of Barcelona at all hours unarmed without the least apprehension, provided you have a light; without it you are liable to be carried to prison by the patrol.

The minones, or thieftakers, are men of trust and consideration, and of approved courage; their dress is that of the miquelets, or mountaineers, who so cruelly harassed the French armies in the wars at the beginning of the last century. They wear their hair in a net; a broad silver-laced hat, squeezed flat, hanging on one side of their head; a handkerchief loosely tied round the neck; a short striped waistcoat, and over it a red jacket, with large silver buttons like bells dangling from it; a blue skirt, bound with yellow tape, rolled several times round their waist, in which they carry their knife, handkerchief, &c. Over this jacket they wear two cross belts, one for an ammunition-pouch, the other for their broad sword and pistols; on the left shoulder hangs a blue great coat embroidered with white thread; their breeches are blue and white striped; their stockings, rolled below the knee, and gartered with an enormous buckle and bunch of black ribbons, reach only down to the ankle, where they tie several rounds of blue fillet very tight, to keep on their packthread sandals, that seem scarce to cover their toes.

The common dress of a Catalan sailor or muleteer is brown, and the distinctive mark by which they are known in Spain is a red woollen cap, falling forwards, like that of the ancient Phrygians. The middling sort of people and artificers wear hats and dark clothes, with a half-wide coat carelessly tossed over the shoulders.

The dress of the women is a black silk petticoat over a little hoop, shoes without heels, bare shoulders, and a black veil stiffened out with wire, so as to arch out on each side of the head, something resembling the hooded serpent.

The Catalans are excellent for light infantry, on the forlorn hope, or for a *coup de main*; but though brave and indefatigable, they are averse to the strictness of regular discipline, unless it be in their own national regiments. They cannot brook the thoughts of being menial servants in their own country, but will rather trudge it all over with a pedlar's pack on their shoulders, or run about upon errands, than be the head domestic in a Catalan family. Far from home they make excellent servants, and most of the principal houses of Madrid have Catalans at the head of their affairs. They are the general muleteers and calessieros of Spain; you meet with them in every part of the kingdom; their honesty, steadiness, and sobriety, entitle them to the confidence of travellers, and their thirst after gain makes them bear with any hardships. With good words, you will always find them docile, but they cannot bear hard usage or opprobrious language.

Those that remain at home for the labours of the field are exceedingly industrious. Their corn-harvest is in May or early in June; but, as these crops are liable to frequent burstings and mildews, they have turned their attention more to the vine, which they plant even upon the summits of their most rugged mountains. In many places they carry up earth to fix the young set in; and in others have been known to let one another down from the brow of the rock by ropes, rather than suffer a good patch of soil to remain useless. Their vintages are

commonly very plentiful. Sometimes whole vineyards are left untouched for want of vessels to make or hold the wine in. The best red wine of Catalonia is made at Mataro, north of Barcelona; and the best white at Sitges, between that city and Tarragona.

The scarcity of corn is sometimes very great, the principality not producing above five months provision. Without the importation from America, Sicily, and the north of Europe, it would run the risk of being famished. From four hundred thousand to six hundred thousand quarters of wheat are annually imported. There are public ovens, where the bakers are bound by contract to bake every day into bread one thousand bushels of flour, or more, at a stated price; and, in case the other bakers should refuse to work, they are under the obligation of furnishing the city with bread.

The great export-commerce consists in wine, brandy, salt, and oil, which are mostly taken in by foreign ships at the little ports and roads along the coast, and not brought to be shipped off at the capital.

There are mines of lead, iron, and coal, in the mountains, but they are ill wrought, and turn to poor account. The manufactures are of more importance. Barcelona supplies Spain with most of the clothing and arms for the troops. This branch of business is carried on with much intelligence; they can equip a battalion of six hundred men completely in a week.

A great trade is driven in silk handkerchiefs, stockings, &c.; in woollens of various qualities; in silk and thread lace; in fire-arms. The gun-barrels of Barcelona are much esteemed, and cost from four to twenty guineas, but about five is the real value; all above is paid for fancy and ornament: they are made out of the old shoes of mules. Several manufactures of printed linens are established here, but have not yet arrived at any great elegance of design or liveliness of colour.

The imports are, beside corn, about eighty thousand hundred weight of Newfoundland cod, which pays three pesettas per hundred weight duty, and sells upon an average at a guinea; beans from Holland, for the poor people, and an inferior sort from Africa, for the mules; salted Conger eel from Cornwall and Britany, sold at forty or fifty shillings per quintal; this is an unwholesome luscious food, which they cook up with garlic and spices: English bale goods, and many foreign articles of necessity or luxury. House-rent and living are dear; provision but indifferent: the fish is flabby and insipid; the meat poor; but the vegetables are excellent, especially brocoli and cauliflower.

The devotion of the Catalans seems to be pretty much upon a par with that of their neighbours in the southern provinces of France; but they still abound with strange practices of religion and local worship. One very odd idea of their's is, that on the 1st of November, the eve of All Souls, they run about from house to house to eat chesnuts, believing that for every chesnut they swallow, with proper faith and unction, they shall deliver a soul out of Purgatory.

The influx of foreigners, increase of commerce, and protection granted to the liberal arts, begin to open the understanding of this people, who have made great strides of late toward sense and philosophy.

There are now but one or two churches at most, in each city, that are allowed the privilege of protecting offenders; and murderers are excluded from the benefit of the sanctuary. The

proceedings of the Inquisition are grown very mild. If any person lead a scandalous life, or allows his tongue unwarrantable liberties, he is summoned by the Holy Office, and privately admonished; in case of non-amendment he is committed to prison. Once a year you must answer to that tribunal for the orthodoxy of your family, and of every servant you have, or they must quit the country; but the foreign Protestant houses are passed over unnoticed. Avoid talking on the subject of religion, and with a little discretion you may live here in what manner you please.

Every Jew that lands in Spain must declare himself to be such at the Inquisition; which immediately appoints a familiar to attend him all the time he stays ashore, to whom he pays a pistole a day. Were he to neglect giving this information, he would be liable to be seized. Yet I have been assured by persons of undoubted credit, that a Jew may travel incognito from Perpignan to Lisbon, and sleep every night at the house of a Jew, being recommended from one to another; and that you may take it for granted, that wherever you see a house remarkably decked out with images, relics, and lamps, and the owner noted for being the most enthusiastic devotee of the parish, there it is ten to one but the family are Israelites at heart.

If a stranger be desirous of becoming acquainted with Spain, the manners and disposition of it's inhabitants, he must proceed farther; for I am told this province bears so little resemblance to the rest of the kingdom, that he will derive no real knowledge on that score from travelling in Catalonia. Here it is not uncommon to hear them talk of a journey into Spain, as they would of one into France; and their language is not understood by the Spaniards, being a dialect of the ancient Limosine tongue, a kind of Gascon.

This sketch of the character of the modern Catalans cannot be more properly closed, than with the epitaph of their countrymen who served under Sertorius, and, after the murder of that great man, disdaining to obey another leader, sacrificed themselves to his manes. It is taken from the annals of Catalonia.

* Hic multæ quæ se manibus
Q. Sertorii turmæ et terræ
Mortalium omnium parenti
devovere dum eo sublato
superesse tæderet et fortiter
pugnando invicem cecidere
Morte ad præsens optata jacent.
Valete Posterî.

The road from Barcelona is good, but made upon too expensive a plan to be continued far. The bridge over the Llobregat is grand, but unluckily so placed as never to be seen by travellers in an oblique direction.

The country at the foot of the mountains is fertile and populous. About Villa Franca de Panades the soil is remarkably light. The husbandmen shovel up the stubble, weeds, and tops of furrows into small heaps, which they burn, then spread them out upon the ground, and

* Here lie the bones of many companies of soldiers, who devoted themselves to the manes of Q. Sertorius, and to the common mother Earth, as loathing all thoughts of surviving him. Fighting bravely with each other, they fell, and met the death which they then wished for. Farewell posterity.

work them in with a plough, which is little more than a great knife fastened to a single stick, that just scratches the surface. In this country all the corn is trodden out of the sheaf by means of horses and mules driven backward and forward over it on a stone or stucco area.

From the heavy sands of the sea-shore you ascend the naked rock of Tarragona. It produces nothing but the dwarf palm or palmetto. This plant grows among the stones to the height of one or two feet: the leaves are stiff and sharp, spread out like fingers, or the sticks of a fan, and very much resembling the leaves of the date-palm. This also produces fruit, and the insipid pith of its root is a favourite eating of the peasants. The leaves make good brooms and ropes, and are a great fattener of cattle.

The ancient Tarraco is now contracted to a very trifling city, that covers only a small portion of the Roman enclosure, and is an ill-built, dirty, depopulated place. Many antiquities have been found, and are still to be seen in the town, and almost all round the walls. A few vestiges remain of the palace of Augustus, and of the great circus: an arch or two of the amphitheatre, and some steps cut in the solid rock, still exist, impending over the sea. About three miles from the city is the Puente de Ferriera, an ancient aqueduct. Father Flores has given a plate of it. The cathedral, dedicated to Saint Thecla, is ugly, but the new chapel of that tutelar saint is beautiful. The inside is cased with yellow and brown marble, dug up in the very centre of the town, and ornamented with white foliages and bass-reliefs. The architecture is accounted heavy, but the whole together has a very pleasing effect.

In Queen Anne's war, the English were in possession of this post, and intended to keep and fortify it, by bringing the river Francolis quite round it. For this purpose they threw up vast outworks and redoubts, of which the ruins are yet very visible. Having secured Minorca and Gibraltar, they renounced the project of fixing a garrison in Tarragona.

From this city you descend into the Campo Tarragonés, a plain of about nine miles diameter, one of the most fruitful spots in Europe: there is not an uncultivated part in the whole extent. The abundance and excellence of its productions have induced all the foreign houses settled in Barcelona to establish agents and factors at Reus, the principal town, near the centre of the plain.

Reus increases daily in size and population; wines and brandies are its staple commodities. Of the former, the best for drinking is produced on the hills belonging to the Carthusians; those of the plain are fittest for distilling. The annual exports are about twenty thousand pipes of brandy, all very pale, but afterward, by mixtures in Guernsey and Holland, brought to the proper colour for our market. There are four degrees of proof or strength--common, oil, Holland, and spirit. Brandy of common proof froths in the glass in pouring out, and remains so. Oil proof is when oil sinks in the brandy. Five pipes of wine make one of strong brandy, and four make one of weak. The king's duty is ten pesettas a pipe on the high proofs, and twelve on the low; the town dues come to three sols, and both duties are paid by the exporter. This branch of trade employs about one thousand stills in the Campo, of which number the town contains a hundred and fifty. It is all carried in carts, at half-a-crown a pipe, down to *Saló*, an open but safe road five miles off. Here it is left on the beach till it pleases the Catalan sailors to float it off to the ships: as they are paid by the year, they only work when they choose, and in fair pleasant weather. Nuts are likewise an article of exportation upwards of sixty thousand bushels from the woods at the foot of the west mountains having

been shipped off in a year. Every thing here wears the face of business, but it is greatly at the expense of the inland villages, many of which are left almost destitute of inhabitants.

Not far behind the mountains that surround this plain stands a rich convent of Bernardine monks. There are many fine views and natural curiosities in its neighbourhood.

Tortosa is an ugly town on the declivity of a hill, north of the Ebro, over which there is a bridge of boats. Its commerce in silk and corn is but at a low ebb. The nuns make extremely delicate silk gloves of what is called *flos-silk*.

In the rich vale of Garena, beyond this place, the olive-trees grow to a great size, their luxuriant branches not being so closely pollarded as in France. Here the peasants wear the Valencian dress, which differs totally from that of Catalonia; a monstrous slouched hat, cropped hair without a net, a short brown jacket, white waistcoat and trowsers, stockings gartered below the knee, and packthread sandals.

At the passage of the Cenia, a pretty brook in winter, but dry in summer, you enter the kingdom of Valencia. After crossing a large tract of heath, you come to the sea-shore, which is beautifully planted to the water's edge with olive, mulberry, fig, and *algarrobo* trees. In the district of Benicarlo, a small place entirely supported by the wine trade, the soil is rich and red, and the vineyards neatly trimmed in rows, without stakes. Eight thousand pipes of a very strong, sweet, red wine, bought in the country at the rate of five guineas per pipe, are annually shipped in this road for Holland, Germany, and Bourdeaux, where they are mixed with the second-rate claret, to give it colour and body. The wine for Bourdeaux is conveyed along the coast to Cette, on board Spanish barks, which are exempt from all duties on exportation. By reason of their apprehensions of Moorish corsairs, and the chance of bad weather, they come to an anchor every night, and commonly make it a voyage of a month at least. At Cette these wines are put upon the great canal of Languedoc, and smuggled into Bourdeaux as high-country wines; for foreign ones are not allowed to be entered at that port. A society of mariners float all the casks from Benicarlo to the ships, and, from the time of their taking charge of them, become answerable for all losses by weather or mismanagement. A good deal of wine goes likewise from Vinaros, a neighbouring town to the north; but the quality of this wine is much inferior to that of Benicarlo, or of Peniscola, a town and fort south of Benicarlo, on a rock in the sea, where the famous antipope, Peter de Luna, took refuge.

In this plain they suffer much for want of water; the vintage is frequently diminished by the excessive heats, which dry up all the springs. It was once in agitation to bring a canal from the Ebro to water this country, but the project ended in smoke, like several others proposed for the melioration of many parts of Spain. Wherever they can procure water from wells, by means of a wheel turned by a mule, they have fine vegetables all the year. They cut lucerne every week in spring, and every fortnight in winter, and mix it with the sweet bean of the locust-tree, for the provender of their mules. Provision is very scarce here, no kind of meat being killed except kid. In spring goat's milk is plentiful; but the peasants in the adjacent mountains live most part of the year upon the roasted acorns of the evergreen oak, a food surprisingly savoury and palatable, but not very nourishing. The gentlemen, proprietors of vineyards, reside up in the mountain villages, in a poor style, always distressed for money, notwithstanding the sure and ready sale of their wines. The sea hereabouts is full of sharks.

From Benicarlo there is much stony road, alternately skirting the shore, or climbing up wild

rocky hills. Few vales surpass in beauty that of Margal, a noble plain, full of trees, villages, and towns. The sea forms a picturesque bay before it, and the mountains run behind in a vast semicircle. The locust and olive trees are old and branchy, the soil deep, and the grounds fertile, being well drenched with water. Castillon de la Llana is the largest and best built town on the road. The women are very ugly, and render themselves still more uncomely, by frizzling their hair all round the forehead, and twisting it on the crown of the head round a nasty brass bodkin. Villa Real is another large town, near the Mijares, a river of a green colour, in a large plain.

The moment you enter the petty kingdom of Valencia, you begin to feel a sensible change in the climate: the days even in November are troublesomely hot, but the nights soft and mild, like our fine summer evenings. Early and late in the day it is pleasant to walk an hour or two, to enjoy the sweetness of the morning and evening breeze, and contemplate at leisure the enchanting prospects along the calm Mediterranean. The numberless creeks and bays, the bold promontories, with each its slender tower, of various shapes and dimensions, the green woody vales, with rocks impending over them, are scenes that can seldom be met with, and never outdone in any country, and such as no description can do justice to. But, as all human pleasure is allayed with some mixture of pain and distress, these charming coasts are not without their calamities; till lately, they were cruelly infested by the Barbary rovers, who frequently cut barks out of their roads, and carried off whole families from the small villages. The scarcity of water is another misfortune, and severely felt almost every summer. Of the innumerable beds of rivers and torrents between Barcelona and Nules, six alone commonly have water in them; the Llobregat, Gaya, Francolis, Ebro, Cenia, and Mijares: and two of these are dry during the hot weather. Hereabouts the little canals from the hills supply the lands with a greater plenty of water.

The valley of Almenara is a kind of land bay, surrounded by lofty mountains, and adorned with six pretty towns, rising out of the bosom of a forest of dark and light greens, varied in a multitude of tints. The long range of turrets upon the hill of Murviedro (once the too faithful Saguntum) juts out toward the sea, from the chain of mountains that runs parallel with the coast, and divides the vale of Almenara from that of Valencia.

Half way up the rock are the ruins of the theatre, in sufficient preservation to give a tolerable idea of its size and distribution. It is an exact semicircle, about eighty-two yards diameter from outside to outside; the length of the orchestra, or inner diameter, twenty-four: the seats for the audience, the staircases, and passages of communication, the vomitoria, and arched porticoes, are still easy to trace. The back part rests against the hill, and some of the galleries are cut out of the rock. Two walls going off at an angle serve to turn off the rain-water, that washes down from the cliff behind. As the spectators faced the north and east, and were sheltered from the west and south, nothing could be more agreeable in this climate than such a place of entertainment; open to every pleasant and salubrious breeze, and defended from all winds, that might bring with them heat or noxious vapours. It is computed, that nine thousand persons might be present without inconvenience at the exhibitions in this theatre. The silence that reigns in this august ruin, which anciently resounded with the applauses of proconsuls and Roman citizens, is now broken only by the *seguidillas* of a few rope-

makers, who have patched up a straw shed against the stage, and spin out their work across the *proscenium*, regardless of the surrounding scenery.

The summit of the mountain is about half a mile in length, and not a tenth part as wide: quite a narrow ridge, covered with ruins and Moorish bulwarks. A few uninteresting inscriptions, two mutilated statues, the vestiges of the floor of a temple, and some Roman arches thrown over a large cistern, are all the antiquities on it. One of the inscriptions is placed topsy-turvy over a gate. The fortifications divide the hill into several courts, with double and triple walls, erected upon huge masses of rock, laid in regular courses, by the Romans. The characteristics of the Moorish military architecture are;---A wall built by means of square forms of wood, into which a mortar, composed of pebbles mixed with a strong cement, is run, and left a certain time to harden; then the boards are taken away, but the marks remain, and give the wall an appearance of regular masonry. Battlements perpendicularly placed on the wall, not projecting over, nor with borders round, as in the Norman and Gothic castles, where the hollows behind the battlements served to throw stones and combustibles through, as the enemy approached to scale them. A gateway turned in an arch, neither pointed like what we call Gothic, nor semicircular like the Grecian; but one, the parts of which resting upon the impost, come much farther in toward each other, and form the figure of a horse-shoe. Sometimes, but very seldom, the Moors employed stones of a large size, and more regular cut; and some few of their arches may be found, that are sharp like the Gothic; but these are probably of the latter times of the Moorish empire in Spain.

The prospect from this place is beautiful beyond description. Hence to Valencia is one perfect garden, so thick of trees, that there is no seeing at any distance on either side. Villages and monasteries every hundred yards, and such crowds of people on the road, as I scarce ever saw but in the neighbourhood of London. All the grounds are divided into small compartments by water-channels, the work of the Moors, who understood the art of watering land in the utmost perfection. The ruinous state these drains are now in, proves the indolence and inferiority of the present proprietors; what little skill they still shew in agriculture is nothing but the traditional remains of the instructions left by their masters in husbandry, the Arabians.

Valencia lies in so dead and woody a flat, that you are in the suburbs before you think yourself near it. This city is large, and almost circular; its lofty walls have towers remaining in one quarter, the rest have been demolished: a fine broad road goes quite round: the two suburbs are considerable. Several large clumsy bridges cross the bed where the river should run; but either from drought, or from the many bleedings it undergoes above, for the purpose of watering the fields, there is scarce water enough in the *Guadaviar* to wash a handkerchief; but in rainy seasons the floods are very tremendous. The captain-general resides in the suburbs, in an uncouth Gothic palace, at the entrance of the *Alameda*, a long double avenue of poplars, cypresses, and palms, where, on great festivals, the nobility take the air in their coaches. About a mile below is the *Grao*, or port of Valencia, which, properly speaking, is only an open road, the mole having been long ago swept away by some violent storm. The dusty highway from the city hither is the fashionable drive; and, for the accommodation of such as have no carriages of their own, several single-horse chairs wait at all hours at the gates. This

vehicle is very uneasy, and open to all weathers; but the horses are excellent, and run along like lightning. The driver sits sideways at your feet, and all the way keeps chattering to the horse, and patting him on the buttock.

The streets of Valencia are crooked and narrow; not being paved, they are full of dust in dry weather, and in wet knee-deep in mud. The reason alledged for this scandalous neglect, is, that by these means a greater quantity of manure is produced, which, in a plain so full of gardens, is of inestimable value. Various and overpowering are the stinks that rise up in every corner; in which respect, as well as in many others, this country resembles Lombardy.

The houses are filthy, ill built, and ruinous; most of the churches tawdry, and loaded with barbarous ornaments both without and within; the most agreeable architecture is in the church of the *Escuelas Pias*, and of *Nuestra Senora de los Desamparados*, both rotundas. In the multitude of sacred edifices, some may be found that excel in particular parts; as, one may please the eye by the just proportion of its dimensions, another strike by the richness of its marbles and paintings; but in all, the judicious observer will be disgusted with loads of garlands, pyramids, broken pediments, and monstrous cornices; a taste too gothic and trifling for any thing but the front of a mountebank's booth, or a puppet-show in a fair. Some churches have domes, but the greater part tall slender turrets, painted and bedecked with all sorts of pilasters and whimsical devices: every thing is gilt and bedaubed with incredible profusion; the Spaniards understand the gilder's business perfectly, and the purity of their gold, with the dryness of the climate, preserves their work for years in its primitive lustre. The convent of the Franciscan friars has something very grand and pleasing in its double court, which is divided by a light wing, upon an open portico, with fountains playing in each division.

The cathedral is a large gothic pile; its archbishopric one of the best in Spain, said to bring in about forty thousand pounds sterling a year, paid in cash into the hands of two receivers. The revenues of Toledo are much greater, but also more troublesome to collect, and more precarious, as being paid in kind, and requiring a great number of bailiffs and servants.

The *Lonja*, or exchange, is a very noble gothic hall, built about the latter end of the fifteenth century, with all the beauty and richness that style is susceptible of.

The custom-house, where the intendant and other officers of the revenue are lodged, is a new large edifice in a great square; a very clumsy mass of brick and stone.

This kingdom and city were conquered by the Moors under Abdallah Ciz, and lost by them in 1094, when the famous Cid Ruy dias de Vivar, taking advantage of the confusion and civil war that raged in Valencia, after the murder of Sultan Hiaya, made himself master of the city by storm, at the head of a chosen band of valiant knights. This was the last exploit of that hero, so long the terror of the Mussulmen. A few years after his death, the king of Castile, finding it too far distant from his other dominions to be conveniently succoured in case of a sudden attack, thought proper to withdraw his troops, and suffer the Moors to repossess themselves of it. It was again taken from them by James the First, king of Arragon, in the year 1238, and for ever united to that crown, the fate of which it has ever since followed through all its various revolutions. In the beginning of the reign of Charles the Fifth, this province was distracted by civil commotions and struggles between the nobility and commons.

Since the last conquest, Valencia has been much enlarged; for the gate through which the Cid made his triumphal entry, is now very near the centre of the town.

On entering the high lands to the south of Valencia is Xativa, which was a strong fortress, till destroyed by Philip the Fifth, who ordered it to be rebuilt by the name of San Felipe.

That monster Rodrigo Borgia, pope by the name of Alexander the Sixth, was a native of this town. The farmers hereabouts have a very sturdy, good-looking breed of horses.

The road from San Felipe is up long winding vales, between ridges of high bleak mountains. On the right hand stands the castle of Montesa, head of the military order of Montesa, instituted in 1317, by James the Second, king of Arragon, after he had driven the Moors as far back as the territories of Granada. All the possessions of the knight-templars in the province were bestowed upon the new order, into which none but natives of Valencia were to be admitted. They wear a plain red cross. The commanderies belonging to the foundation are thirteen in number; and their yearly income, according to the king's books, where they are very low rated, amounts to four hundred and four thousand one hundred and twelve reales de vellon. In 1748, an earthquake overthrew the castle and all the adjacent buildings, burying under the ruins the greatest part of the chaplains, servitors, &c. belonging to the congregation. The remainder were removed to Valencia, where a new church is built for their use.

Alicant has neither buildings nor streets to recommend it to notice; though the houses in general are solidly built, with flat roofs, covered with cement; their walls are plastered, and every thing as white as the soil of the adjacent country; which fatigues the eye most cruelly in sunshiny weather, that is, almost every day in the year. Then the dust flies about in whirlwinds; if it rain, there is no possibility of making your way through the streets without boots, the *Calle-mayor* being the only paved street in the whole town. In the hot months, this place is a very furnace, its form being the best calculated in the world for intercepting the rays of the sun, and collecting them as in one focus: the mountain behind shuts out the winds, that, blowing from the cool quarters, might refresh the atmosphere; but the sea-breeze occasionally contributes to the cooling of the air. In mild winter weather, however, it is impossible not to be delighted with the climate, and the beauties of situation that the port of Alicant affords. It stands on the middle of a narrow neck of land, that runs out into the sea a considerable way, and almost comes round in a semicircular form; in the centre of which ships ride with as much safety as in a harbour: a rocky mountain rises directly behind the town; on its summit is the castle, now fortified after the modern method, and extended far beyond the limits of the old fortress, great part of which was blown up, with a fragment of the rock, in the war with the allies, in the reign of our Queen Anne. The English garrison refused to capitulate, though the French gave them notice of the mine being ready to be sprung. A well that communicated with the mine gave it some vent, and prevented the rest of the mountain from being shivered to pieces by the explosion: however, most of the officers were blown up, and the remainder of the troops so stunned by the shock, as to be many hours deprived of all power of motion.

Behind the castle hill, is a plain some leagues in circumference, called *las huertas*, the gardens of Alicant, lying along the seashore, surrounded on three sides by very lofty mountains. It is a very beautiful vale, thickly studded with villages, villas, farms, and plantations of all kinds of fruit-trees; but in the hot part of the year the air is very unwholesome, and few or none escape agues or fevers. Here the fine Alicant and Tent wines are made. Only two of the great number of proprietors of vineyards, make a practice of keeping their wine to a proper age. As the value is enhanced manifold by keeping, the high price they get for their

wines amply repays them for the time they are out of their money. Of the common sorts, about five thousand tun may be the amount, most of which is destined for the Bourdeaux merchants.

Water is the great agent, the *primum mobile* of all productions in this country; every thing languishes, and soon is parched up, without an ample supply of it; abundance of rain secures both a plentiful harvest and a copious vintage. Wherever a spring breaks out, the king's people seize upon it, and allot to each landholder a proper hour for letting the water upon his grounds. It is of so much consequence, that the value of a guinea has been paid for an hour extraordinary.

The English factory imports all sorts of bale goods, corn, and Newfoundland cod. The articles of exportation are wine and barilla. This last grows in great quantities along the coast, especially near Carthagena.

From Alicant is seen, at nine miles distance south, the island of S. Polo, where the Conde de Aranda settled a colony of Genoese and others, who formerly inhabited an island on the African coast. The regency of Tunis destroyed their settlement, and carried them all into slavery; from which they were redeemed by Spain, and, with the allowance of a pistreen a day, sent to form a new town on this barren island. As it yields no productions of any kind, they are obliged to be supplied from the main land with every necessary of life: so that should the administrators neglect to lay in a sufficient stock for their sustenance, in case of tempestuous weather they must inevitably perish with hunger and thirst.

Elche, the next stage, is a large town belonging to the duke of Arcos, built on the skirts of a wood, or rather forest, of palm-trees, where the dates hanging on all sides in clusters of an orange colour, and the men swinging on bass ropes to gather them, formed a very curious and agreeable scene. The palms are old and lofty; their number is said to exceed two hundred thousand. Many of the trees have their branches bound up to a point, and covered with mats to prevent the sun and wind from getting to them. In process of time the branches become quite white, and are then cut off, and sent by ship-loads from Alicant to Genoa, and other parts of Italy, for the grand processions of Palm-Sunday; an uncommon species of traffic.

The country round this town is very cheerful, and so are the environs of Orihuela. They are indebted for their fertility to the abundance and proper distribution of water. In dry years, every field that has not some spring or aqueduct, to furnish it with repeated irrigations, is sure to fail in its crop. There is a Spanish proverb in favour of the last-mentioned city: *Si llove, aytrigo en Orihuela, y si no llove aytrigo in Orihuela*: "If it rain, there is plenty of wheat in Orihuela, and if it do not rain, there is still plenty of wheat in Orihuela." Indeed we found its bread excellent, and it has the reputation of producing the best corn in Spain. It is a bishop's see, pretty large, and well enough built, at the foot of a ridge of bare rocks, near the head of a very fruitful *vega* or vale. Near it are avenues of Peru pepper-tree, or *Schinus molle*, loaded with bunches of a handsome rose-coloured fruit; the people of the country call it *Ti-ravientos*, probably from some wind-expelling quality. Hence you proceed along the skirts of the rocks up into the celebrated vale of Murcia.

The city of Murcia is neither large nor handsome. The *Segura*, a muddy river, which divides it into two unequal parts, though it contributes nothing to the embellishment of the town, claims the merit of creating, by means of its waters, the surprising fertility of the plain.

Hundreds of small drains convey them to the enclosures; and, in spite of the effects of the scorching rays of the sun, preserve the vegetable system fresh and succulent.

The walks about the place are trifling; the streets so full of black stagnant water, as to be almost impassable. The only thing we found worth seeing was the cathedral, a large massive pile.

Round one part of it is a chain, cut in stone, with a great deal of truth and ease. The steeple is lofty, and intended to exhibit specimens of every one of the five orders of architecture. You may ride up to the top by a passage, that goes gradually winding round the tower. From it you have a full view of the town and country; but in winter the bare brown mountains appear too near to please. The names and banners of the Jews, that have been burnt in this town by the Inquisition, are stuck up in the church like so many trophies won in the day of victory from some mighty foe.

The port of Carthagena is one of the completest in the world, formed by the hand of Nature in the figure of a heart. The island of Escombrera blocks up the entrance, and shelters it from the violence of winds and waves. High, bare mountains rise very steep, from the water's edge, on the east and west. On the north, a narrow, low ridge of hills, on which the city stands, shuts out the view of the inland country. Under the mountains on the right hand, the deepest and safest position in the whole bay, a large fleet may lie in the utmost security, out of the sight of all ships that may be at sea, or even in the narrow part of the entrance of the harbour.

The east side of this port is much shallower than the west side, and the anchorage is loose and sandy. Vessels have been frequently forced from their anchors, and dashed to pieces against the rocks, by the storms from the south-west. In any other part of the harbour, the waters are perfectly dormant, never ruffled by wind or tides.

Not far from Carthagena, is a place called Almazaron, where they gather a fine red earth called *Almagra*, used in the manufactures of Saint Ildefonso, for polishing looking-glasses. In Seville, it is worked up with the tobacco, to give it a colour, fix its volatility, and communicate to it that softness, which constitutes the principal merit of Spanish snuff.

The Moorish kingdom of Granada consisted of those parts of Spain that lie in the south-east corner of the peninsula, and at its most flourishing period never exceeded seventy leagues in length from east to west, and twenty-five in breadth from north to south. Its historians have laboured hard to prove, that it had separate monarchs soon after the Moorish conquest of Spain; but it is more than probable, that this country did not become a distinct sovereignty, while the kaliphs of the East retained any authority in Europe. By degrees, the weakness of the other Mohammedan potentates, who could afford no succour against the common enemy; the coalition of the Christian kingdoms under one or two powerful heads; and, more than all, their own civil discords and deadly feuds, had, long before its final overthrow, reduced the kingdom of Granada to little more than the Alpuxaras mountains and the capital city.

Granada stands on two hills, at the foot of the *Sierra nevada*, where two small rivers join their waters. One of them, the *Dauro*, sometimes washes down gold; the other, the *Xenil*, virgin silver. The ancient palace of *Alhambra*, and the *Torre vermeja*, crown the double summit of the hill between the rivers; the other hill, north of the *Dauro*, is covered with the *Albaycin* and *Alcaçaba*. The remainder of the city extends along the skirts of the plain in a se-

micircular form. The Vega, or plain, is eight leagues long, and four broad; a gentle slope of beautiful hillocks bounds the horizon on all sides, except that of the Sierra nevada, and to the north-west, where it is terminated by the bare top of the *Sierra Elvira*, or *Sierra de los Infantes*. This mountain was so named from the death of the princes of Castile, Peter and John, who perished here, through excess of heat and thirst, in a battle against the Moors, 1319.

The country about Granada was so alluring, the situation so striking, and the salubrity of its air so universally celebrated, that the victorious Saracens soon were induced to turn their arms that way. It was taken by the forces of Tarif in 715, the ninety-fifth year of the Hejira. As long as Spain remained subject to the viceroys of the kaliphs of the family of the Omniades, Granada does not appear to have undergone any great revolution, although now and then an ambitious governor might make an attempt toward independency. The first that brought this design to bear, and rendered the crown hereditary in his family, was Mehemed Alhamar, governor of Arjone, who began his reign in 1236.

Granada, while governed by its own kings, the last years excepted, seems to have enjoyed greater affluence and prosperity than ever it has done since it became a province of Spain. Before the conquest, it was one of the most compact, well-peopled, opulent kingdoms in the world. Its agriculture was brought to great perfection, its revenues and circulation were immense; the public works carried on with great magnificence, and its population not to be credited by any person that sees it in its present condition. Nothing but the numerous ruins scattered over its hills can induce any one to believe, that those bleak, barren wastes, which make up more than two thirds of the province, were formerly covered with luxuriant plantations of fruit-trees, abundant harvests, or noble forests. Each Moor had his allotment of as much ground as sufficed for his habitation, the maintenance of his family, and the provender of his horse, which every man was obliged to keep. These small freeholds formed the general appearance of the country, before the incessant inroads and ravages of the Christians had driven the Moors to cities, mountains of difficult access, or quite away to the coast of Barbary. The single city of Granada contained eighty thousand families, and frequently sent out armies of thirty thousand foot, and ten thousand horse. An Arabian author says, that the kings had a constant stock of a hundred thousand horses for their own use, and for mounting their cavalry in time of war, and more than once had mustered two hundred thousand soldiers in actual pay, for the purpose of making war upon the Castilians.

A great deal of silk was produced in the plain, and the hills behind the city afforded corn enough for its consumption. The rich mines of the mountains were opened, and, though not wrought with any thing like the skill of modern miners, yielded such a quantity of gold and silver, that both metals were more common in Granada than any country in Europe.

In Granada no house was without its pipe of water, and in every street were copious fountains for the public convenience. In short, they neglected no art or invention, that could contribute toward rendering their lives easy and voluptuous. Perhaps their refinement helped to accelerate their ruin.

But the glories of Granada have passed away with its old inhabitants; its streets are choked with filth; its aqueducts crumbled to dust; its woods destroyed; its territory depopulated;

its trade lost; in a word, every thing, except the church and law, is in the most deplorable condition.

The ancient fortress of Alhambra, the residence of the Mohammedan monarchs of Granada, derives its name from the red colour of the materials with which it was originally built, Alhambra signifying a red house. Most of the sovereigns took a delight in adding new buildings to the old towers, now called *Torres de la Campana*, or in embellishing what had been joined by their predecessors. The pleasantness of the situation, and purity of its air, induced the emperor Charles the Fifth to begin a magnificent edifice on the ruins of the offices of the old palace, and it is thought he intended to fix his chief abode here: but his volatile temper, continual wars, and frequent absences from Spain, made him give up all thoughts of Granada, long before he had finished the plan. It stands between the rivers, on a very high hill, that projects into the plain, and overlooks all the city; the road up to it is through a narrow street, called *Calle de los Gomeles*, from a great family among the Moors. This brings you through a massive gate, built by the Emperor, into the outward enclosure of the Alhambra. You then continue to ascend by a very steep avenue of elms, which soon increases to a wood, intersected in many directions by wild, neglected walks, where streams of clear water, finding their passage obstructed by the rubbish of their old channels, spread over the whole road. A large fountain adorns the platform near the top of the hill. The water, diverted from its proper conduits, has been suffered to run at random for such a length of time, that it has destroyed most of the sculpture and embellishments, which were in a very good taste. Here you turn short to the left, and come under the walls of the enclosure. Its appearance is that of an old town, exhibiting a long range of high embattled walls, interrupted at regular distances by large lofty square towers. These have one or two arched windows near the top, and a precipitate slope from the bottom into a dry ditch. The whole is built with round irregular pebbles, mixed with cement and gravel. Some parts are covered and smoothed over with a thick coat of plaster; in other places, mortar has been laid in between the stones, leaving as much of them uncovered as came to the level; then the trowel has been carefully drawn round, forming about them triangles, half-moons, &c. Just before you stands the present principal entrance into the castle, a square tower built by the king Jusaf Abuhagiagi, in 1348, as an inscription informs us. From its being the place where justice was summarily administered, it was styled *the Gate of Judgment*. You pass through it under several arches, each of which is more than a full semicircle, resting upon a small impost, the ends of the bow being brought toward each other in the form of a horseshoe. On the keystone of the outward arch is sculptured the figure of an arm, the symbol of strength and dominion: on that of the next arch is a key embossed, the armorial ensign of the Andalusian Moors. Above it, the wall of this partition is covered with a beautiful blue and gold mosaic, in the middle of which they have placed an image of the Virgin Mary. As this is not a gate ever used for carriages, the passage winds through several turns, full of images, indulgencies, and altars, before you get through, out into a narrow street, between a row of shabby barracks on the right, and on the left the castle wall, supposed to be built by the Phoenicians. The work consists of a layer of cement one or two inches thick, upon which is placed flatwise a stone of the same thickness, chiselled on the face into a kind of a chequered design. This is the regular method employed from top to bottom. This lane

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ends in the great square, or *Plaza de los Algibes*, so named from the ancient cisterns, that undermine it from end to end, and are constantly fed by a supply of running water. The prospect from the parapet-wall is wonderfully grand, over the vale of Dauro, the Albaycin, and down the Vega. On the very brow of the hill, hanging over the city, stand the *towers of the bell*, a groupe of high square buildings, which now serve for prisons. Below them, on the south side, on a slip of terrace, is the governor's garden, a very pleasant walk, full of fine orange and cypress trees, and myrtle hedges, but quite abandoned. The view it commands is incomparable. Two large vases enamelled with gold and azure foliages and characters are the only ornaments left: these were taken out of the vaults under the royal apartments. On the right hand of the Plaza de los Algibes is a solitary gateway, formerly the entrance into some of the outward quadrangles thrown down by Charles the Fifth, to make room for his superb palace, which stands facing the *Torres de la Campana*. This edifice is a perfect square of two hundred Spanish feet; it has two orders of pilasters, Doric and Ionic, upon a rustic base. The whole measures sixty-two feet from the top of the upper entablement to the ground. Three of the fronts are free from all other buildings; the fourth, that to the north, is joined and connected with the ancient palace of the Moorish kings. It was never finished, which is much to be regretted by all lovers of the fine arts, for there are few edifices more deserving of their admiration. The architect was Alonzo Verruguete, a native of Paredes de Navas, near Valladolid. In this work he has displayed the most transcendent genius, grandeur of style, and elegance and chastity of design. How different from all that has been done for a century past in this kingdom! The doors are designed in a great manner; the bass-reliefs, figures, festoons, medallions, &c. are of excellent invention and execution; the ornaments of the cornices, windows, and capitals, are delicate, and suitable to the general effect. On the pedestals of the columns, that support the entablement of the great door, are reliefs on dark marble, that for polish might pass for bronze at a little distance; the Doric door in the south side, called *el Zanguenete*, pleased me greatly, as there is something simply elegant in the taste, and new in the ornamental part; the pediment is filled with a scroll thrown with great ease, on which is inscribed *Plus outre*, the motto of the Emperor, which he never failed introducing into every public work he undertook. You come, through an oblong vestibule, into the court which forms the centre of the palace. It is an exact circle, of one hundred and forty-four feet diameter, round which runs a Doric colonnade, or portico, of thirty-two columns, supporting an upper gallery of an equal number of pillars, of the Ionic order. They are all of them of one entire block of reddish marble. The portico is nineteen feet wide, and serves as a communication with the staircase, and the intended apartments, which are disposed round the court in various forms and proportions. The roof of the gallery is crumbling away very fast, and many of the columns are much damaged. The apartments never had any other covering than the sky; and nothing but the matchless temperature of the climate could have saved this beautiful work, so many years, from total ruin.

Adjoining, to the north, stands a huge heap of as ugly buildings as can well be seen, all huddled together, seemingly without the least intention of forming *one* habitation out of them. The walls are entirely unornamented, all gravel and pebbles, daubed over with plaister by a very coarse hand; yet this is the palace of the Moorish kings of Granada, indisputably the

most curious place within that exists in Spain, perhaps in Europe. In many countries, you may see excellent modern as well as ancient architecture, both entire and in ruins; but nothing to be met with any where else can convey an idea of this edifice, except you take it from the decorations of an opera, or the tales of the Genii.

Passing round the corner of the emperor's palace, you are admitted at a plain unornamented door in a corner. On stepping over the threshold, you find yourself on a sudden transported into a species of fairy land. The first place you come to is the court called the *communa*, or *del mesucar*, that is, the *common baths*: an oblong square, with a deep basin of clear water in the middle; two flights of marble steps leading down to the bottom; on each side a parterre of flowers, and a row of orange-trees. Round the court runs a peristyle paved with marble; the arches bear upon very slight pillars, in proportions and style different from all the regular orders of architecture. The ceilings and walls are incrustated with fret-work in stucco, so minute and intricate, that the most patient draughtsman would find it difficult to follow it, unless he made himself master of the general plan. This would facilitate the operation exceedingly, for all this work is frequently and regularly repeated at certain distances, and has been executed by means of square moulds applied successively, and the parts joined together with the utmost nicety. In every division are Arabic sentences of different lengths, most of them expressive of the following meanings: "There is no conqueror but God;" or, "Obedience and honour to our Lord Abouabdallah." The ceilings are gilt or painted, and time has caused no diminution in the freshness of their colours, though constantly exposed to the air. The lower part of the walls is mosaic, disposed in fantastic knots and festoons. The porches at the ends are more like grotto-work, than any thing else. That on the right hand opens into an octagon vault, under the Emperor's palace, and forms a perfect whispering-gallery, meant to be a communication between the offices of both houses.

Opposite to the door of the *communa* through which you enter, is another, leading into the *Quarto de los Leones*, or apartment of the lions, which is an oblong court, one hundred feet in length, and fifty in breadth, environed with a colonnade seven feet broad on the sides, and ten at the end. Two porticoes or cabinets, about fifteen feet square, project into the court at the two extremities. The square is paved with coloured tiles; the colonnade with white marble. The walls are covered five feet up from the ground with blue and yellow tiles, disposed chequer-wise. Above and below is a border of small escutcheons, enamelled blue and gold, with an Arabic motto on a bend, signifying, "No conqueror but God." The columns that support the roof and gallery are of white marble, very slender, and fantastically adorned. They are nine feet high, including base and capital, and eight inches and a half diameter. They are very irregularly placed, sometimes singly, at others in groupes of three, but more frequently two together. The width of the horseshoe arches above them is four feet two inches for the large ones, and three for the smaller. The ceiling of the portico is finished in a much finer and more complicated manner, than that of the *communa*, and the stucco laid on the walls with inimitable delicacy; in the ceiling it is so artfully frosted and handled, as to exceed belief. The capitals are of various designs, though each design is repeated several times in the circumference of the court, but not the least attention has been paid to placing them regularly or opposite to each other. Not the smallest representation of animal life can be discovered amid

the varieties of foliages, grotesques, and strange ornaments. About each arch is a large square of arabesques, surrounded with a rim of characters, that are generally quotations from the Koran. Over the pillars is another square of delightful filligree work. Higher up is a wooden rim, or kind of cornice, as much enriched with carving as the stucco that covers the part underneath. Over this projects a roof of red tiles, the only thing that disfigures this beautiful square. This ugly covering is modern, put on by order of Mr. Wall, prime minister about forty years ago, who gave the Alhambra a thorough repair. In Moorish times the building was covered with large painted and glazed tiles, of which some few are still to be seen. In the centre of the court are twelve ill-made lions muzzled, their fore-parts smooth, their hind-parts rough, which bear upon their backs an enormous basin, out of which a smaller rises. While the pipes were kept in good order, a great volume of water was thrown up, that, falling down into the basins, passed through the beasts, and issued out of their mouths into a large reservoir, where it communicated by channels with the jets d'eau in the apartments. This fountain is of white marble, embellished with many festoons, and Arabic distichs.

Passing along the colonnade, and keeping on the south side, you come to a circular room, used by the men as a place for drinking coffee and sorbets in. A fountain in the middle refreshed the apartment in summer. The form of this hall, the elegance of its cupola, the cheerful distribution of light from above, and the exquisite manner in which the stucco is designed, painted, and finished, exceed all powers of description. Every thing in it inspires the most pleasing, voluptuous ideas: yet in this sweet retreat they pretend that Abouabdoulah assembled the Abencerrages, and caused their heads to be struck off into the fountain. Our guide, with a look expressive of implicit faith, pointed out to us the stains of their blood in the white marble slabs; which is nothing more than the reddish marks of iron-water in the quarry, or perhaps the effect of being long exposed to the air. Continuing your walk round, you are next brought to a couple of rooms at the head of the court, which are supposed to have been tribunals, or audience-chambers. In the ceiling are three historical paintings, executed with much strength, but great stiffness in the figures and countenances. One of them seems to be a cavalcade; the other the entrance of some princess; and the third a divan. The anathema denounced by the Koran against all representations of living creatures renders it next to impossible, that these pieces should have existed previous to the conquest. The lions of the great fountain, however, may be brought as an argument against this last reason; and indeed they show, that the Granadine princes, as well as some of the oriental kaliphs, who put their own effigy on their coin, ventured now and then to place themselves above the letter of the law.

Opposite to the *Sala de los Abencerrages* is the entrance into the *Torre de las dos Hermanas*, or the tower of the two sisters, so named from two very beautiful pieces of marble laid as flags in the pavement. This gate exceeds all the rest in profusion of ornaments and in beauty of prospect, which it affords through a range of apartments, where a multitude of arches terminate in a large window open to the country. In a gleam of sunshine, the variety of tints and lights thrown upon this enfilade are uncommonly rich. The first hall is the concert-room, where the women sate; the musicians played above in four balconies. In the middle is a jet d'eau. The marble pavement is equal to the finest existing, for the size of the flags, and evenness of the colour. The two sisters, which give name to the room, are slabs that measure

fifteen feet by seven and a half, without flaw or stain. The walls, up to a certain height, are mosaic, and above are divided into very neat compartments of stucco, all of one design, which is also followed in many of the adjacent halls and galleries. The ceiling is a fretted cove. To preserve this vaulted roof, as well as some of the other principal cupolas, the outward walls of the towers are raised ten feet above the top of the dome, and support another roof over all, by which means no damage can ever be caused by wet weather, or excessive heat and cold. From this hall you pass round the little myrtle-garden of Lindaraxa, into an additional building made to the east end by Charles V. The rooms are small and low: his dear motto, *Plus outre*, appears on every beam. This leads to a little tower, projecting from the line of the north wall, called *El Tocador*, or the dressing-room of the sultana. It is a small square cabinet, in the middle of an open gallery, from which it receives light by a door and three windows. The look-out charming. In one corner is a large marble flag, drilled full of holes, through which the smoke of perfumes ascended from furnaces below: and here, it is presumed, the Moorish queen was wont to sit to fumigate and sweeten her person. The emperor caused this pretty little room to be painted with representations of his wars, and a great variety of grotesques, which appear to be copies, or at least imitations, of those in the loggie of the Vatican. They have been shamefully abused by idle scribblers; what remains shows them to be the work of able artists. Hence you go through a long passage to the hall of ambassadors, which is magnificently decorated with innumerable varieties of mosaics, and the mottoes of all the kings of Granada. This long narrow antichamber opens into the *communa* on the left hand, and on the right into the great audience-hall in the tower of *Comares*, a noble apartment, thirty-six feet square, thirty-six high up to the cornice, and eighteen thence to the centre of the cupola. The walls on three sides are fifteen feet thick, on the other nine; the lower range of windows thirteen feet high. The whole hall is inlaid with mosaic of many colours, disposed in intricate knots, stars, and other figures. In every part are repeated certain Arabic sentences, which prove, that there is very little of it remaining that is not the work of Abulhaghagh, or of Abouabdoulah.

Having thus completed the tour of the upper apartments, which are upon a level with the offices of the new palace, you descend to the lower floor, which consisted of bed-chambers and summer-rooms: the back-stairs and passages, that facilitated the intercourse between them, are without number. The most remarkable room below is the king's bedchamber, which communicated, by means of a gallery, with the upper story. The beds were placed in two alcoves, upon a raised pavement of blue and white tiles; but as it has been repaired by Philip V, who passed some time here, we cannot say how it may have been in former times. A fountain played in the middle, to refresh the apartment in hot weather. Behind the alcoves are small doors, that conduct you to the royal baths. These consist in one small closet with marble cisterns for washing children, two rooms for grown persons, and vaults for boilers and furnaces, that supplied the baths with water, and the stoves with vapour. The troughs are formed of large slabs of white marble; the walls are beautified with parti-coloured earthenware; light is admitted by holes in the coved ceiling.

Hard by is a whispering-gallery, and a kind of labyrinth, said to have been made for the diversion of the women and children.

One of the passages of communication is fenced off with a strong iron grate, and called the

prison of the sultana; but it seems more probable, that it was put up to prevent any body from climbing up into the women's quarter.

Under the council-room is a long slip, called the king's study; and adjoining to it are several vaults, said to be the place of burial of the royal family. In the year 1574, four sepulchres were opened, but, as they contained nothing but bones and ashes, were immediately closed again.

Every thing was admirably planned and calculated for rendering this palace the most voluptuous of all retirements: what plentiful supplies of water were brought to refresh it in the hot months of summer; what a free circulation of air was contrived, by the judicious disposition of doors and windows; what shady gardens of aromatic trees; what noble views over the beautiful hills and fertile plains! No wonder the Moors regretted Granada; no wonder they still offer up prayers to God every Friday for the recovery of this city, which they esteem a terrestrial paradise.

After having described the Alhambra, the Generaliffe is not worthy notice.

Between Antequera and Malaga are the hills that furnish the wine known in England by the name of Mountain.

The ancient city of Malaga stands at the foot of these, in the very corner of the plain, which is quite bare of wood, except the little that grows about the country-houses; the naked craggy mountains hang over the shore, and scarce leave room for the city. A Moorish castle, on the sharp point of a rock, commands every part of it. This situation renders Malaga most insufferably hot for eight months in the year. The port and road seem safe enough, but the new mole is a great improvement to them. The sea has lost ground here, on account of the sand hurried down from the mountains by a neighbouring river, and accumulated annually along the shore. The Darsena, or docks where the Moors kept their galleys, are still remaining on the wharf, and now serve as warehouses. The streets are narrow; some squares are of a good size; but there is no very remarkable building, except the cathedral, which is indeed a stupendous pile, begun by Philip II, while married to Mary queen of England. Their united arms are still to be seen over the door.

The bishop's palace, in the same square, loaded with frivolous ornaments, is a large building, but looks insignificant so near the other. Its prelate enjoys an income of 16000*l.* sterling.

Between Malaga and Gibraltar are twelve sugar-mills, where they have wrought time out of mind. The tradition is, that the sugar-cane was first brought into Spain by the Arabs.

Westward of the once celebrated kingdom of Granada lies the fertile province of Andalusia, the rich soil of which appears to be inexhaustible; but an industrious population is wanting. In this province is the port of Cadiz. The town occupies the whole surface of the western extremity of the isle of Leon, which is composed of two large circular parts, joined together by a very narrow bank of sand, forming all together the figure of a chain-shot. At the south-east end, the ancient bridge of Suaço, thrown over a deep channel or river, affords a communication between the island and the continent; a strong line of works defends the city from all approaches along the isthmus; and, to render them still more difficult, all the gardens and lit-

tle villas on the beach, were in 1762 cleared away, and a dreary, sandy glacis left in their room, so that now there is scarce a tree on the whole island.

Except the *Calle Ancha*, all the streets are narrow, ill-paved, and insufferably stinking. They are all drawn in straight lines, and most of them intersect each other at right angles. The swarms of rats that in the nights run about the streets are innumerable; whole droves of them pass and repass continually, and these their midnight revels are extremely troublesome to such as walk late. The houses are lofty, with each a vestibule, which being left open till night, serve passengers to retire to: this custom, which prevails throughout Spain, renders these places exceedingly offensive. In the middle of the house is a court like a deep well, under which is generally a cistern, the breeding-place of gnats and moschettoes; the ground-floors are warehouses, the first stories computing-house or kitchen, and the principal apartment up two pair of stairs. The roofs are flat, covered with an impenetrable cement, and few are without a *mirador* or turret for the purpose of commanding a view of the sea. Round the parapet-wall at top are placed rows of square pillars, meant either for ornament according to some traditional mode of decoration, or to fix awnings to, that such as sit there for the benefit of the sea-breeze may be sheltered from the rays of the sun; but the most common use made of them, is to fasten ropes for drying linen upon. High above all these pinnacles, which give Cadiz a very singular appearance, stands the tower of signals: here flags are hung out on the first sight of a vessel, marking the size of the ship, the nation it belongs to, and, if a Spanish Indiaman, the port of the Indies it comes from. The ships are acquainted with the proper signals to be made, and these are repeated by the watchmen of the tower: as painted lists are in every house, persons concerned in commerce soon learn the marks.

The city is divided into twenty-four quarters, under the inspection of as many commissioners of police.

The square of Saint Antonio is large, and tolerably handsome, and there are a few smaller openings of no great note. The public walk, or Alameda, is pleasant in the evening: it is fenced off the coach-road by a marble rail. The sea-air prevents the trees from thriving, and destroys all hopes of future shade.

From the Alameda, continuing your walk westward, you come to the Camposanto, a large esplanade, the only airing-place for coaches; it turns round most part of the west and south sides of the island, but the buildings are straggling and ugly; the only edifice of any shew is the orphan-house; opposite to it is the fortress of Saint Sebastian, built on a neck of land running out into the sea. The round tower at the extremity is supposed to have saved the city, in the great earthquake of 1755, from being swept away by the fury of the waves. The building proved sufficiently solid to withstand the shock, and break the immense volume of water, that threatened destruction to the whole island. In the narrow part of the isthmus the surge beat over with amazing impetuosity, and bore down all before it; among the rest, the grandson of the famous tragic poet Racine, who strove in vain to escape, by urging his horse to the utmost of his speed.

On Saint Sebastian's feast, a kind of wake or fair is held in the fort. An astonishing number of people then passing and repassing, on a string of wooden bridges laid from rock to rock, makes a very lively moving picture.

Hence to the wooden circus where they exhibit the bull-feasts, you keep turning to the left close above the sea, which on all this side dashes over large ledges of rock; the shore seems here absolutely inaccessible. On this shore stands the cathedral.

Next, crossing before the land-gate and barracks, a superb edifice for strength, convenience, and cleanliness, you come down to the ramparts, that defend the city on the side of the bay. If the prospect to the ocean be solemn, that toward the main land is animated in the highest degree; the men of war ride in the eastern bosom of the bay; lower down the merchantmen are spread far and near; and close to the town an incredible number of barks, of various shapes and sizes, cover the surface of the water, some moored and some in motion, carrying goods to and fro. The opposite shore of Spain is studded with white houses, and enlivened by the towns of Saint Mary's, Port-real, and others, behind which, eastward, on a ridge of hills, stands Medina Sidonia, and farther back rise the mountains of Granada. Westward, Rota closes the horizon, near which was anciently the island and city of Tartessus, now covered by the sea, but at low water some part of the ruins are still to be discerned.

At the mouth of the Guadalquivir, the ancient Bœtis, is San Lucar, where the fleets of Spain were wont to rendezvous, before Cadiz was made the staple for Indian goods, and before the bar at the mouth became so considerable as to impede the navigation of large vessels.

The ground rises very beautifully west of Saint Mary's; it is a perfect garden. The kermes or holme-oak is very beautiful, appearing quite on fire with the scarlet gall-nuts of the little insect which produces the false cochineal. Near the Guadalquivir, the country is arable, with few enclosures. In times of remote antiquity San Lucar was called Fanum Luciferi. It was once the port of Seville, and at the seasons for the arrival or departure of the fleets, the most stirring place in Europe: at present it is a neat, quiet town, without much business. The small ships, that carry on it's trade, lie half a league farther up in the Ansa, where the Indian flota used to moor. The river is wide and very rough at the bar; the opposite shore so dead a flat, that it is difficult to distinguish it from the water. You may now saunter along the Playa de San Lucar, without meeting a soul: how changed from what it was in the days of Cervantes, when it was crowded with the busy and the idle, the honest and the profligate!

The neighbouring city of Xeres contains no less than forty thousand inhabitants, of which a twentieth part are ecclesiastics. There is a monastery of Carthusian monks, a few miles off, remarkable for it's breed of horses, and for a very fine view over the plains toward the bay and shipping of Cadiz.

This convent, founded in 1482 by Alvaris de Valleta, a citizen of Xeres, is grand, and well laid out: water is conveyed into every public hall and private cell. The earth, in the cemeteries of Xeres, has the quality of preserving corpses uncorrupted for years and ages.

Seville, the next city on our route, appears to great advantage from the hills, at the distance of a couple of miles. The soil upon the heights is sandy, planted with pine-trees and vines, enclosed with hedges of various kinds of shrubs, among which there is a great quantity of yellow jasmine. Round the city is a great plain of corn-lands, pastures, and gardens; the Guadalquivir, which runs through it, is very subject to overflow it's banks, and lay all the ad-

jacent country under water; the low lands by the river side are common, and two years cropped with corn, the third left to run up into grass.

In this city the muleteers are obliged to ride as postillions on the foremost mules, conformably to orders of the magistrates, for preventing stoppages and accidents in the streets, which are uncommonly crooked and narrow.

Adjoining to the Alcazar, or royal palace, of this capital of Andalusia, is a hanging-garden, highly refreshing and voluptuous in the summer evenings. Several parterres, surrounded by galleries and terraces, intersected by myrtle hedges and jasmine bowers, and perfumed by clumps of orange-trees, have also the advantage of abundance of water. The water-works may be made to play, by means of a small bribe to the keeper; and nothing can be more delicious than these sprinklings in a hot day: all the flowers seem to acquire new vigour, the odours, exhaled from the orange, citron, and lemon trees, grow more poignant, more balsamic, and the company become ten times more alive.

Philip the Fifth resided here many years, and passed his time in drawing with the smoke of a candle on deal boards, or angling for tench in a little reservoir.

The palace is a *pasticcio* of Saracenic, Conventual, and Grecian architecture. The principal front of the inner court is a piece of excellent Morisco work; so that the traveller is not a little surprised to find *lions, castles*, and other armorial ensigns of Castile and Leon, interwoven with the Arabesque foliages; and still more so, to see, in large Gothic characters, an inscription informing him, that these edifices were built in the fourteenth century, by the most mighty king of Castile and Leon, don Pedro.

Within this portico is a court ninety-three feet by sixty-nine: it is flagged with marble, and surrounded by a colonnade of white marble columns of the Corinthian order, elegantly proportioned, and well executed; the walls behind are covered with grotesque designs in the Moorish taste: Charles the Fifth has contrived to foist his eagle and his *Plus outre* into every corner. The great hall adjoining, called the *Media Naranja*, or half-orange, from the form of it's cupola, is richly gilt and stuccoed in the same manner. It is certain, that the portion of the fabric, called by travel-writers the *Moorish part*, was the work of Peter the Cruel, who might easily procure skilful artists from the kings of Granada, with whom he was connected most part of his reign; but there is no accounting for the Corinthian pillars, unless we suppose them to have belonged to some Roman edifice, destroyed for the sake of supplying materials for the palace, or to have been placed by the emperor under the old gallery, in lieu of others in a barbarous style or ruinous state. Next to the court of the lions in the Alhambra, this square is the most pleasing piece of Arabic building in Spain, though in delicacy of design and execution, the ornaments of the Sevillian are much inferior to those of the Granadine palace.

Near the western entrance was formerly to be seen a stone seat, with it's canopy supported by four pillars, all now destroyed. Here that severe judge, don Pedro, sat to decide causes, and give sentence upon malefactors. His justice was so very inflexible, that in those days of feudal anarchy, it was looked upon in the light of wanton cruelty and tyranny: perhaps that unfortunate monarch owes to the hatred of those he meant to reduce to order, much of the obloquy which has been so plentifully bestowed upon him by historians, who have painted him

to us as a tyrant so bloody, so wicked, as almost to exceed the bounds of probability. In Andalusia, where he fixed his residence, and seemed most to delight, his memory is not held in the same abhorrence. The Sevillian writers speak of him very differently; and instead of his usual appellation of *Pedro el Cruel*, distinguish him by that of *El Justiciero*. It is certain, that his bastard-brother and murderer, Henry of Transtamare, was guilty of crimes full as atrocious as any of those imputed to don Pedro; but as he destroyed him, his family, and adherents, the friends of the new spurious race of monarchs were left at full liberty to blacken the characters of the adverse party, without fear of being called to an account for calumny, or even contradicted. Truth is now out of our reach; and for want of proper proofs to the contrary, we must sit down contented with what history has left us, and allow don Pedro to have been one of the most inhuman butchers that ever disgraced a throne.

Of the ancient colony of Italica, supposed to have been composed by Scipio of his veteran soldiers, and to have given birth to Trajan, Hadrian, and Theodosius the Great, scarce the least vestige remains. It is said the Moors destroyed it, not to have a rival so near Seville, where they intended to fix the seat of their empire; but this is probably the mere surmise of some modern historian. From the appearance of the ground it seems to have been built in imitation of Rome, on seven hills, and the river Boetis to have run at the foot of them. By accidental obstructions and banks of sand, accumulated in a long series of inundations, the river may have been driven from its ancient bed, and forced more into the heart of the plain, where it now takes its course. Such an event as this would account for the ruin of so considerable a city as Italica; and without supposing that the Saracens were at the pains of demolishing it, would afford sufficient cause for giving the preference to Seville, which stands upon the Guadalquivir.

On the summit of the first hill are some ruinous brick walls, called *El Palacio*, not in the least remarkable.

On the most distant eminence are considerable ruins of an amphitheatre, built with pebbles, and brick arches; most probably the marble casing has been carried away, or destroyed by burning to lime. The form is a perfect oval; the arena measures about one hundred yards in its greatest length, and sixty in its greatest breadth; some of the vomitoria, cells, and passages, are yet discernible, but scarce any traces of the seats: however, the curious may make out twenty rows, two feet six inches wide, and two feet high; each step of the stairs of communication is one foot high and one wide. This amphitheatre is now more like Stonehenge than a regular Roman edifice*.

Not far from it is a fine pool of water, in a large vault under the hill; which appears to be the remains of some aqueduct, as the water is too warm to be near the spring head.

Seville is supposed to have been founded by the Phœnicians, who gave it the name of *Hispalis*: the Romans called it *Julia*; in after-ages the old name returned, and after a variety of

* The corporation of Seville, having occasion for stones to embank the river, which, by its frequent inundations, caused great damage to the city, ordered the amphitheatre of Italica to be knocked down. Many hands were employed to batter the walls, and to blow up with gunpowder such parts as resisted the pick-ax. By these means they procured sufficient materials for their embankment; but, as if the Guadalquivir meant to revenge the cause of taste upon these barbarians, the very first flood swept away the whole fabric.

corruptions, seems to have been revived in the modern appellation of *Sevilla*, or *Sevilla*, for the Spaniards use both indiscriminately. Under the Roman government, it was embellished with many magnificent buildings, destined for purposes of public utility and amusement; but I believe the very ruins of those edifices have long ago disappeared. The Gothic kings resided here before they removed their court to Toledo.

The shape of Seville is circular, without any great rising in the whole space. The walls seem of Moorish construction, or of the ages which immediately followed the dissolution of the Saracen empire, as appears by their form and materials. The ditch is filled up in many places. The circumference of the walls is not more than five miles and a half. The suburb of Triana, on the west side of the river, is as large as many towns, but remarkable for nothing but its gloomy Gothic castle, where, in 1482, the Inquisition formed its first establishment in Spain.

About five and twenty miles from Seville is Carmona, a large town, standing boldly on a high hill. Its castle, in ruins, covers a vast extent of ground, and contains many buildings that served for palace and fortress to don Pedro the Cruel, and his family. He placed his main hope in the strength of this castle, and in the faithful attachment of don Martin Lopez de Cordova, grand-master of the order of Calatrava, to whose care he entrusted his sons Sancho and Diego, whom he had had by a lady he had taken to his bed, after the death of his famous mistress, Maria de Padilla. Henry of Transtamare, after the defeat and murder of Pedro in the plains of Montiel, laid siege to Carmona, took it by capitulation, together with the children and treasures of the late king, and basely breaking his word of honour, caused Lopez to be beheaded for his obstinate resistance.

Like every place in this province, Carmona makes a figure in Roman history, and has many remains of Roman walls, inscriptions, &c. to show as proofs of its ancient importance. The country about it is hilly and champaign, but far from unpleasant, as it is all green, and has some wood and water in different parts of the view.

The country, as you approach Cordova, is all bare, hilly, and arable. The view of the river, city, and woods, on the opposite hills, is extremely agreeable and picturesque. The environs are delightful, and enjoy a rich variety of woods, hillocks, and culture, vivified by abundance of limpid water. The flat land produces olives and corn, and much of it is laid out in gardens, where the fruit-trees grow to a remarkable size, and seem perfectly clean and healthy. The upper-grounds are overrun with evergreen oaks and pines, which the farmers grub up in the good spots to plant olive and carob bean trees in their stead. The farm-houses are built in the midst of enclosures and orchards of orange-trees. Corn-land is let for so many measures of corn, either a fixed number for each harvest, or an indefinite quantity according to the crops; the high-lands are all let out at a certain rent in cash.

The Guadalquivir runs before the town, which it has worn into a perfect half moon. A bridge of sixteen arches, defended by a large Moorish tower, leads from the south into Cordova, and near the end of the bridge stands the mosque, now the cathedral. The walls of the town are in many places just as the Romans left them: the method they have followed here in laying the stones is rather different from what is observed in other Roman edifices. Here each long square stone is terminated and flanked by two thin ones set up an end.

The streets are crooked and dirty; few of the public or private buildings conspicuous for their architecture; the new hospital for the education of orphans, has something bold and simply noble in its cupola and portico. The palaces of the Inquisition and of the bishop are extensive, and well situate.

Strabo says, that Corduba was founded by Marcellus, and was the first Roman colony established in Spain. Its Latin appellation was *Patricia*. It boasts of having given birth to Seneca and Lucan.

The mosque, in Spanish called la Mesquita, from the Arabic word *masgiad*, a place of worship, was begun by Abdoulrahman the First, and destined by him to remain to after-ages as a monument of his power and riches, and a principal sanctuary of his religion. His ideas were sublime, and he was fortunate enough to find an architect whose genius was equal to the task of putting them in execution. He laid the foundation of the work two years before he died: his son Hissem or Iscan finished the whole mosque about the year 800. It was more than once altered and enlarged by the Mohammedans themselves, and has since undergone several changes since it became a Christian church. The greatest alteration was made in the fifteenth century, by building a cupola in the centre upon Gothic arches, and scooping away part of the ancient edifice to form a large choir.

Andalusia is divided from Castile by the Sierra Morena, a chain of mountains rendered famous by the wars of the Christians and Mohammedans, but perhaps better known by being the scene where the immortal Miguel de Cervantes has placed the most entertaining adventures of his hero. The eastern extremity, though very high, and commanding a vast prospect to the south, does not in the least resemble a ridge of mountains, such as the Alps, the Pyreneans, or many others; but appears little more broken and elevated than many parts of England, which are well inhabited and cultivated.

Toward the confines of Andalusia is a new village called Las Navas de Tolosa, from the old name of the defile in the neighbouring mountains; where, in 1212, Alfonso the Ninth, king of Castile, Peter the Second, of Arragon, and Sancho the Seventh, of Navarre, with their joint forces, attacked and cut to pieces the army of Mohammed, king of Morocco. Historians gravely tell us, that there fell no less than two hundred thousand Moors, more than half their army, with the loss of only twenty-five Christians; and in a letter said to have been written by Alfonso to the Pope, this list of the slain is given. It seems a very extraordinary story, but it is not more wonderful, than that three hundred and fifty thousand Moors, without reckoning the Spanish forces, could contrive to squeeze themselves into such a heap of mountains jumbled together, where you cannot find twenty yards of level ground for some miles round the spot.

A very striking alteration in the climate is perceived on descending from the Sierra Morena, and entering the Mancha. In Andalusia, toward the end of April, the vines are all in leaf, and their fruit set; the flowers of the shrubs falling off to make way for the seed. On the northern side of the mountains scarce a fresh leaf is to be seen, or a bud in the vineyards; the poor starved bushes, with just a flower or two blown; the weather cold and raw. The Mancha is an immense plain, intersected by different ridges of low hills and rocks: not an enclosure of any kind, except mud-walls about the villages; and there is scarcely a tree to be seen from the Sierra Morena to Toledo, or from the banks of the Tagus to Madrid: a few dwarfish evergreen

oaks, huddled together in nooks of hills, and some stumpy olive-plants, scarce deserve the name of trees. All this vast tract of open country is cultivated in corn or vines: there cannot be an uglier. The villages are large; and there are few or no single houses. The houses are built with mud and gravel. The women cover their heads with coloured handkerchiefs, and their necks with laced palatines.

Val de Penas produces a very pleasant red wine, the most drinkable, for common use, of any in Spain. The provision of wine for the king is kept in hogsheads; the remainder of the vintage in skins. The best wine sells at the rate of twenty reals the arroba.

A few miles out of the road, at *los Ojos de la Guadiana*, that river, after running eight leagues under ground, rises up to-day, and thence takes its course toward Estremadura. The road passes over the subterraneous river at the Venta de Quesada, where the well in the yard communicates with it. Straw, or any kind of light stuff, dropped into the well, is hurried away with such rapidity by the stream, that you will not bring up a single straw, though you let down the bucket almost instantaneously.

Toledo is a strange city in point of situation; something like Durham, or Richmond in Yorkshire, but not equal to either in beauty, as it is totally bare of wood. The Tagus, after winding at large through a fine plain, which a little more wood would render very agreeable to the eye, comes at last to be wedged in between two ramparts of high steep rocks: the passage is very narrow, and before the river gets out again into a broad bed and open ground, it almost returns to the place where it entered the defile. On this rocky peninsula stands the city, exceedingly ill built, poor, and ugly. The streets are so steep, that no stranger in his sober senses would venture up or down them in a carriage.

The Alcazar, or ancient palace, which was burnt down by the allied army in the beginning of the century, is placed on the highest point of all. It is a noble extensive building; the architecture is chaste and unaffected; the inner court is very grand; its colonnade of granite columns, of the Corinthian order, makes a noble appearance; the chapel is lofty and narrow; which renders it convenient to attend divine service, as there is a balcony in each story of the house that leads into it. The stables are under the kitchens and offices, and are large enough to contain a very considerable number of horses. The garret story is one open gallery for playing in, above eighty yards in length. In the middle stories are several large halls, the most spacious of which measures about one hundred and sixty feet by thirty-six.

The cathedral has nothing particularly beautiful on the outside above the common run of Gothic churches: it is not to be compared with many we have in England. The steeple is in the ugly style of the Flemish and German spires, a heap of blue turrets piled one upon another. The inside is well lighted and cheerful, neither heavy, nor confused with too many ornaments: the decorations added of late years are not in the best of tastes, but in richness of gilding without a competitor. The wealth of the archbishop and chapter displays itself in the profusion of gold lavished on the walls: they have gilded the iron rails, the Gothic arches, and even drawn lines of gold to mark the joints of the stones with which the pillars of the choir are built. The group of angels, called *El transparente*, which is fixed behind the choir, and esteemed by the Toledans the glory of their church, is at best but a clumsy, ill-designed monument, remarkable for nothing but the fineness of the marble and other materials.

From the ancient capital of New Castile to within half a league of Madrid, the present seat

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of government, the roads are as bad as in any part of the kingdom, and the country extremely ugly. The most pitiful city in the peninsula can scarcely cut a more despicable figure than this metropolis of all the Spains does from the opposite hills, as you approach it on the south side; neither tree, villa, nor garden, until you arrive at the avenues of the town; the corn-fields run up close to the houses; in short, the whole landscape round you is the barest and most melancholy that can be conceived: but as soon as the trees of the walks shut out the prospect of the neighbouring country, the appearance of Madrid is grand and lively; noble streets, good houses, and excellent pavement, as clean as it once was dirty.

The first king that made any long abode in Madrid, was Henry the Fourth. Before his reign, this was but an insignificant place, with a small castle for the convenience of the princes that came to hunt the bear in the environs, which were then as woody as they now are naked. Its situation on a hill overlooking many leagues of country, open on every side to a wholesome circulation of air, and abundance of good water, induced the Emperor Charles the Fifth to build an ample palace here, which he intended to make his chief residence, as he thought the climate best adapted to his constitution. The sovereign being once fixed at Madrid, the nobility soon abandoned their hereditary castles and houses in other cities, to follow the court. They were under the necessity of settling in the houses they found ready built; and for this reason, added to the supine indifference that seized the Spaniards during the last two thirds of the seventeenth century, and near half of this, most of the great families still continue to inhabit vast ranges of ugly fabrics, not distinguishable from the common houses in the streets, except by their larger dimensions.

The palace is all of white stone. Each of the fronts being four hundred and seventy feet in length, by a hundred high, this pile towers over all the country, where nothing intercepts the view for many miles. The entrances and ground-floor appear more like those of some mighty fortress, than of the peaceable habitation of a powerful monarch, a hundred leagues removed from his frontiers. The range of large glazed arches round the inner court resembles the inside of a manufactory: this is the more unpardonable, as they had at no great distance, in the Alcazar of Toledo, as elegant a colonnade as the nicest critic could desire. The beautiful circular court of Granada might have suggested noble ideas to the architect; but probably at that time the very existence of such a thing was a secret at Madrid.

The staircase was meant to be double, but it was afterward judged more convenient to shut up one flight, as the remaining half answered every purpose. The upper apartments however are beautiful, grand, and fitted up with royal magnificence. The ceilings are chefs-d'œuvre of Mengs, Corrado, and Tiepolo. The richest marbles are employed with great taste in forming the cornices and socles of the rooms, and the frames of the doors and windows. What enhances the value of these marbles is the circumstance of their being all produced in the quarries of Spain, whence, in the opinion of a learned writer, ancient Rome was supplied with many of the precious materials, that enriched her porticoes and temples. At least, there is no presumption in asserting, that the bowels of the earth in Spain contain most of those species of marbles, alabasters, &c. that are to be seen in the ruins of the mistress of the world, whatever might be the countries from which they were drawn. Porphyry is found near Cordova; the finest jasper near Aracena; the mountains of Granada furnish a beautiful green,

those of Tortosa a variety of brown marbles; León and Malaga send alabaster; Toledo, Talavera, Badajoz, and Murviedro, abound in marbles of different colours; and most parts of the kingdom afford some specimen or other of jasper, beside the amethyst and its radix, for which Spain is celebrated above most other countries.

About twenty miles from Madrid are the town and palace of Aranjuez, the road to which is extremely fine. This road was made by Charles III, at the vast expence of one hundred and thirty thousand pounds sterling. The new bridge over the Xarama, at the descent into the plain, is very long and grand. Aranjuez has great beauties; numberless avenues of aged elms on a perfect level; green banks to rest upon, near a fine meandering river; fountains and shady groves; plenty of milk and butter, and vegetables in great perfection.

The situation of this place renders it one of the most agreeable residences in Europe, belonging to a sovereign prince. It stands in a very large plain, surrounded with bare hills, which to be sure, are excessively ugly; but they seldom appear, being very well hidden by the noble rows of trees that extend across the flat in every direction. The compartments between the avenues are railed off, and laid down in pasture and meadow, for the supply of the large dairy of cows established here by the king. That part of the vale which stretches out toward the east is left in a ruder state, and, except some few fields of corn, is mostly forest-land, through which the Tagus winds in a deep shady bed. The walks and rides along the banks, through the venerable groves, and under the majestic elms that overhang the roads, are luxuries unknown to the rest of Spain. The beauties of the scenery are enhanced by the flocks of many-coloured birds that flutter and sing on the boughs; by the herds of deer, which amount to no less than seven thousand head; and by the droves of buffaloes, sheep, cows, and brood mares, that wander uncontrolled through all these woods. The wild boars are frequently seen in the evenings in the streets of the town.

The finest avenue, called the *Calle dela Reyna*, is three miles long, quite straight from the palace gate, crossing the Tagus twice before it loses itself in the thickets, where some noble spreading elms and weeping poplars hang beautifully over the deep still pool. Near this road is a flower-garden for spring, laid out with great taste by Mr. Wall during his ministry. The gay variety of flowers at this time of year is particularly pleasing to the eye; but its beauty soon fades on the approach of summer. As the weather grows hot, the company that chooses to walk retires to a garden in an island of the Tagus, on the north side of the palace. This is a heavenly place, cut into various walks and circular lawns, which in their primitive state may have been very stiff and formal; but in the course of a century, nature has obliterated the regular forms of art; the trees have swelled out beyond the line traced for them, and destroyed the enfilade, by advancing into the walks, or retiring from them. The sweet flowering shrubs, instead of being clipped and kept down, have been allowed to shoot up into trees, and hang over the statues and fountains, to which they were originally meant to serve as humble fences. The jets-d'eau dash up among the trees, and add fresh verdure to the leaves. The terraces and balustrades, built along the river, are now overgrown with roses, and other luxuriant bushes, hanging down into the stream, which is darkened by the large trees growing on the opposite banks. Many of the statues, groups, and fountains, are handsome, some masterly, the works of Algardi: all are placed in charming points of view, either in open circular spots, at a distance from the trees, or else in gloomy arbours, and retired angles of the wood.

The west front of the palace is handsome: two new wings, brought out from the main body, increase it's bulk, but do not add much to it's beauty. The first part of the building was erected by Philip the Second, who purchased the estate, planted many of the avenues, and, in order to extend his chace, or to indulge his splenetic disposition, had all the vines that grew on the hills rooted up. By these means he drove away the inhabitants, and rendered the environs of his villa a perfect desert. These hills are full of springs, that throw up large quantities of a strong purgative salt.

The town or village formerly consisted of the palace, it's offices, and a few miserable huts, where the ambassadors, and the attendants of the court, endeavoured to lodge themselves, as well as they could, but always very uncomfortably. Many of the habitations were vaults half under ground. What determined the king to build a new town, and to embellish the environs, was an accident that happened at the nuncio's: a coach broke through the ceiling of his dining-room, and fell in upon the table. The court then began to apply very considerable sums to the purpose of erecting proper dwellings, for the great number of persons that flock to the place where the sovereign resides; near ten thousand are supposed to live here two or three months in spring; the king keeps one hundred and fifteen sets of mules, which require a legion of men to take care of them. Half a million sterling has been laid out at Aranjuez, since the year 1763; and it must be acknowledged, that wonders have been performed: several fine streets drawn in straight lines with broad pavements, a double row of trees before the houses, and a very noble road in the middle; commodious hotels for the ministers and ambassadors; great squares, markets, churches, a theatre, and an amphitheatre for bull-feasts, have been raised from the ground. Neatness and convenience have been more studied and sought for than show in the architecture, but altogether the place has something truly magnificent in it's aspect.

About fifteen miles north-west of Madrid is the Escorial, built by Philip the Second, in consequence of a vow he made to Saint Laurence before the battle of Saint Quintin, which was fought on the tenth of August 1557. It was begun in 1562, and consists of several courts and quadrangles, which altogether are disposed in the shape of a gridiron, the instrument of the martyrdom of Saint Laurence; the apartment where the king resides forming the handle. The building is a long square of six hundred and forty feet by five hundred and eighty; so that allowing besides four hundred and sixty for the projection of the chapel and king's quarter, the whole circumference comes to two thousand nine hundred Spanish feet. The height up to the roof is all round sixty feet, except on the garden side, where the ground is more taken away. At each angle is a square tower two hundred feet high. The number of windows in the west front is two hundred; in the east front, three hundred and sixty-six. The orders employed are Doric and Ionic; but the outward appearance of this vast mass is extremely plain, and far from beautiful. With it's narrow high towers, small windows, and steep sloping roof, it certainly exhibits an uncouth style of architecture; but the domes, and the immense extent of it's fronts, render it a wonderfully grand object from every point of view. The best side to see it from is about half a mile down the hill on the Madrid road, as you are then so much below it that the building hides the bleak mountain, which presses very close upon it behind; the green fields and woods behind it, and the place you stand in, make a good contrast, and set it off to the best advantage.

The church, which is in the centre of all, is large, awful, and richly, but not affectingly ornamented. The cupola is bold and light. The high altar is composed of rich marbles, agates, and jaspers of great rarity, the produce of this kingdom. Two magnificent *Catafalques* fill up the side arcades of this sanctuary; on one the emperor Charles the Fifth, his wife, daughter, and two sisters, are represented in bronze, larger than life, kneeling: opposite are the effigies of Philip the Second, and of his three wives, of the same materials, and in the same devout attitude.

Underneath is the burial-place of the royal family, called the Pantheon. Twenty-five steps lead down to this vault, over the door of which is a very classical inscription, denoting that it was intended by Charles the emperor, resolved upon by Philip the Second, begun by Philip the Third, and completed by Philip the Fourth. The mausoleum is circular, thirty-six feet diameter, incrusting with fine marbles in an elegant taste. The bodies of the kings and queens lie in tombs of marble, in niches, one above the other. The plan of these sepulchres is grand, and executed with a princely magnificence; but too gay, too light, and too delicately fitted up for the idea we are apt to form of a chapel destined for the reception of the dead. Accustomed to feel a kind of horror on our approach to any place that reminds us of the painful dissolution of our being, we naturally expect something serious and awful in the appearance of such a repository. The princes and princesses of the royal family lie in two side-vaults near the entrance of the Pantheon.

The palace of St. Ildefonso, five and thirty miles north of the Escorial, was greatly embellished and favoured by Philip the Fifth, who spent much treasure in forcing Nature, and rendering it in some sort an imitation of what he remembered to have seen in the gardens of Versailles. His son Ferdinand abandoned it to his mother-in-law. In the hot months of summer it is a remarkable cool spot, being fenced from the hot south winds by a ridge of very high snowy mountains, and situate in the bottom of a vale open to the north. But this situation exposes it to such sudden and frequent changes of temperature and seasons in the course of a few hours, that it is often necessary to shift from cloth to silk, and from silk to cloth, twice or thrice a day; and these transitions are sometimes productive of colics, and other serious disorders.

A romantic brook rolls over the rocks at no great distance from the town, through a large tract of thickets, and serves his majesty as a fishing-place. A walk is cut along the sides for a mile or two, and very much resembles a modern English improvement. The quantity of fine water is one great recommendation to Saint Ildefonso. The palace is patch-work, and no part of the architecture agreeable. The gardens are in the formal French style; the trees are poor starved limes, for the soil is so shallow, and the rocks so compact and near the surface, that they can strike no root. To plant them, the old king had squares in the rock blown out with gunpowder, and worked with tools, then filled with earth. You may easily imagine they have not thriven much, and indeed they are with difficulty kept alive by frequent renewals of soil and waterings.

The water-works surpass even the finest at Versailles. They send forth a stream as clear as crystal, whereon the sun-beams play in the most beautiful prismatic tints, and it falls around like the sweetest finest dew. The designs of the fountains are elegant, especially that of the Frogs; a central one, where sixteen spouts play in a regular combination; the great cas-

cade; the basket, remarkable for its idea and symmetry; the fountain of Diana; and the lofty column of water issuing out of the trump of Fame.

The first object in Segovia that attracts the eye, is the aqueduct; as the road from Saint Ildefonso runs near it a considerable way through the suburbs. It is perfectly well preserved, and does not seem leaky in any part. From the first low arches to the reservoir in the town, its length is two thousand four hundred Spanish feet; its greatest height, in the Plaza del Azobejo at the foot of the walls, is one hundred and four; it is there composed of a double row of arches, built of large square stones without mortar, and over them a hollow wall of coarser materials for the channel of the water, covered with large oblong flags. Of the lower range of arcades, which are fifteen feet wide by sixty-five high, there are forty-two. The upper arches are one hundred and nineteen in number; their height twenty-seven Spanish feet, their breadth seventeen; the transverse thickness or depth of the piers eight feet. This aqueduct is not only an admirable monument of antiquity for its solidity and good mason's work, which have withstood the violence of so many barbarians, and the inclemencies of the seasons during so many ages, but also wonderfully beautiful and light in its design. The Pont du Gard is not equal to it in elegance of proportions. Antiquaries have not agreed upon the epocha of its erection; some attribute it to the time of Trajan, and others are willing, for the honour of their country, to give the credit to Hercules. The Romans certainly were the builders of it, but no inscription leads to the knowledge of the precise period of their empire, in which it was constructed. It is likely to remain in its present state as long as Segovia exists; for the situation of that city on a dry rock renders this supply a thing of indispensable necessity.

The cathedral, dedicated to Nuestra Senora de la Paz, is one of the handsomest churches in Spain, in the latest Gothic manner. The inside is majestic, and remarkably clear of the embarrassments of altars and chapels so common throughout the kingdom. The high altar is rich and showy.

The Alcazar, or castle, stands in one of the finest positions possible, on a rock rising above the open country; a very pretty river washes the foot of the precipice, and the city lies admirably well on each side on the brow of the hill; the declivity is woody, and the banks charmingly rural; the snowy mountains, and dark forests of Saint Ildefonso, compose an awful background to the picture. Toward the town there is a large court before the great outward tower, the prison of Gil Blas, so well described by le Sage. The rest of the buildings form an antique palace, which has seldom been inhabited by any but prisoners since the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella, who were much attached to this situation. There are some magnificent halls in it, with much gilding in the ceilings, in a semi-barbarous taste; and all the kings of Spain are seated in state along the cornice of the great salon.

The unevenness of the crown of the hill gives a wild look to this city. Most of the streets are crooked and dirty; the houses wooden and very wretched: nor do the inhabitants appear much the richer for their cloth manufactory. Indeed it is not in a very flourishing condition; but what cloth they make is very fine.

The country hereabouts has the reputation of being the best for feeding the kind of sheep that gives the celebrated wool; but as those flocks wander over many other parts of the kingdom, and are not bred here, Segovia does not appear to have any right to this exclusive claim.

A small quantity of it is manufactured in the country, and through mismanagement, laziness, or lack of hands, the greater part of the wool is carried to France; and, at Orleans and other places, made up into caps and cloths, many of which return to Spain for sale.

The country grows sandy as you advance into Old Castile. In general it is extremely open, but now and then you come to woods of pine-trees, especially near the rivers. It appears much better land, and more populous, than New Castile, for the villages stand pretty thick in most parts of it. In some of their houses may still be seen a cow's tail with combs stuck in it; a custom which prevailed in Sancho Pança's time, and was of such service in furnishing the barber with a false beard.

Olmedo is a ruined town in a fine plain, rich in corn and pasturage, in droves of brood mares, and flocks of black sheep; some pine woods, in one of which is a grand monastery of Bernardines, bound the horizon very agreeably.

A very sandy tract of forest land terminates in a hill, from which may be seen the plains of Valladolid, and the course of the Duero; a fine river, that falls into the ocean at Porto, in the kingdom of Portugal. Valladolid is a very large rambling city, full of edifices; which, during the reign of Philip the Third, who made it his constant residence, were the palaces of his great officers and nobility. Being abandoned by their owners, who have followed the court in all its different emigrations, they are fallen to decay, and exhibit a picture of the utmost desolation. The private houses are ill-built and ugly. The great square, some streets built upon porticoes, many colleges and convents, are still grand, and denote something of the magnificence of a place that had been long honoured with the presence of its monarch: but in general, Valladolid has the appearance of having been run up in a hurry to receive the court, and meant to be rebuilt afterward at leisure of more durable materials than bad brick and mud, the composition of most of its present houses. The Dominican convent, a Gothic edifice, is the most remarkable in the city.

After several times crossing the winding stream of the Puiserga, you reach a much more agreeable country, better provided with wood, and more thronged with habitations. On every steeple may be seen one or two storks' nests; these birds appearing to be held in the same veneration here as they are in the Low Countries. Here stands Burgos, the ancient capital of the kingdom of Castile, but long since abandoned by its princes to obscurity and decadency. The approach to it, up a long valley, is rather pleasing: the castle, the ancient broken walls sloping down from it, and lower down the cathedral, terminate the prospect in a picturesque manner. The dress of the women differs from what is seen in other parts of Spain: they wear large clumsy shoes, almost as bad as the French sabot, a brown gown thrown back and tied behind, a blue and white apron, and a large flowing white veil fastened with blue ribands. The montero caps of the men are all faced with red or blue.

Near Burgos is the celebrated Abbey de las Huelgas, one of the best endowed in Spain. Its nuns are all noble, and the abbess almost a sovereign princess, by the extent of her territories, the number of her prerogatives, and the variety of her jurisdictions. The convent is not a showy building; the situation is low and unpleasant.

The little river Alarcon separates the suburbs from the city; which is built in a very irregular manner, on the declivity of a steep hill, commanded by an antique castle, once the abode of the counts, and afterward of the kings of Castile.

The cathedral is one of the most magnificent structures of the Gothic kind now existing in Europe; but although it rises very high, and is seen at a great distance, its situation in a hole cut out of the side of the hill is a great disadvantage to its general effect. Its form is exactly the same as that of York minster, which may be considered as the criterion, according to which the beauties or defects of every Gothic church are to be estimated. At the western or principal front are two steeples ending in spires, and on the centre of the edifice rises a large square tower, adorned with eight pinnacles; on one side of the east end is a lower octagon building, with eight pyramids, which correspond exactly with the Chapter-house at York. The resemblance between these buildings is striking; both were embellished with a profusion of statues; most of those at York were destroyed in the first emotions of iconoclastic zeal; those of Burgos are still in full possession of the homages of the country, and consequently entire; several of them are much more delicate than might be expected, considering the age in which they were sculptured. Santiago, the patron of this cathedral, stands very conspicuous on his war-horse among the needles of the main steeple; and the Virgin Mary is seated in solemn state over the great window of the west porch. The foliage-work, arches, pillars, and battlements, are executed in the most elaborate and finished manner of that style, which has usually been called *Gothic*.

A little beyond Burgos a remarkable singularity occurs in the head-dress of the married women: it consists of a black periwig, faced all round with the wool of a black lamb, ending behind in two long plaited tresses, that reach down to their rumps. Previous to their nuptials, they are obliged to make up this elegant kind of helmet, which renders their natural ugliness still more horrible.

A succession of bare hills and fertile vales brings the traveller to the foot of the Sierra del Oca; a lofty ridge of mountains that runs from west to east, and seems to block up all farther progress. There is a pass, however, at Pancorvo, a long village in a defile that winds through the Sierra, with immense piles of rock impending on every side, wearing an awful, tremendous aspect.

Having passed through, you descend into the fruitful plains of the Ebro. This noble river does not appear much less here at Miranda, than it does above two hundred and thirty miles lower, at Tortosa. Miranda is well situate, but its buildings are poor, and its gates and streets so narrow, that a carriage cannot pass through them. The plain is of great extent, bounded to the west by the blue mountains, where the Ebro takes its rise. In these flats, which are frequently overflowed, the soil is a rich loam, where they cultivate a large quantity of oats, a grain not much sown or used in the southern provinces. Hence you ascend the hills to a gravelly country planted with vines, and at Puebla de Trivino bid adieu to all bad roads, and villainous inns: for here you enter Alaba, a division of Biscay, and immediately come to the finest road imaginable, made at the expense of the province, and carried through the whole signory of Biscay to the frontiers of France. Their only fault is being rather narrow in some places, which indeed is excusable from the mountainous and difficult passes they have been conveyed over, where more space is scarce to be contrived. Every thing around now assumes a different appearance; instead of bare depopulated hills, melancholy despondent countenances, dirty inns, and abominable roads, you are revived by the sight of a rich studied

culture, a clean-looking, smiling people, good furniture, neat houses, fine woods, good roads, and safe bridges.

Biscay is the country of the ancient Cantabri, so imperfectly subdued by Augustus, and so slightly annexed to the Roman empire. Their mountains have in all ages afforded them temptations and opportunities of withdrawing themselves from every yoke, that has been attempted to be imposed upon them. Their language is accounted aboriginal, and unmixed with either Latin, French, or Spanish. It is so totally different from the Castilian, that you seldom meet with any of the peasants, that understand one word of Spanish. The Biscayners are stout, brave, and choleric to a proverb. The best sailors in Spain belong to the ports of Biscay, and its mountains produce a very valuable race of soldiers. Their privileges are very extensive, and they watch over them with a jealous eye. They have no bishops in the province, and style the king only *Lord of Biscay*. The men are well-built and active, like all mountaineers. The most singular thing in their dress is the covering of their legs; they wrap a piece of coarse gray or black woollen cloth round them, and fasten it on with many turns of tape; reminding an Englishman of Malvolio's cross-gartering in the Twelfth Night. The women are beautiful as angels, tall, light, and merry: their garb is neat and pastoral; their hair falls in long plaits down their backs, and a veil or handkerchief, twisted round in a coquettish manner, serves them for a very becoming head-dress: on Sundays they generally wear white, tied with rose-coloured knots.

The road to Victoria leads through the finest plains perhaps in Europe. Words are weak to express its wonderful fertility, the crowds of villages in sight on all the little eminences, the noble woods that stretch round the corn-lands, and the happy busy looks of the crowd as they return from market; every cottage has its little garden, neat and flourishing.

Victoria is placed on a hill, and makes a figure from all the environs; but the streets are narrow and gloomy, the houses being built of a very dark-coloured stone.

Having traversed the rich plains beyond the capital of Alava, you ascend the hills into the woods, which consist of oak, beech, and chesnut. They pursue here the same method as the inhabitants of the French side of the Pyrenees, that of planting their timber-trees; wherever an old one is felled, they take care to replace it with a young set about four feet high.

Near Salinas, a village inhabited by the workmen of the iron forges, you enter the very heart of the mountains; which would be impassable from the steep ascents and rapid slopes, had they not lessened the difficulties by proper windings of the road, and by great attention to keep it in perfect repair. The tops of all these mountains are crowned with forests, or covered with pastures; the acclivities cultivated as far as their nature will allow, and the deep vallies thronged with villages, hamlets, iron-works, orchards, and gardens. The timber of the mountains, and the iron smelted in the forges, employ a great number of hands, and give life and spirit to the whole province. The little towns are full of good houses, built by those whose industry and enterprise have been rewarded with success. These manufactories and undertakings diffuse opulence among the middle class of men, and enable them to indulge the patriotic vanity of settling comfortably in their native hamlet.

Having winded along a charming valley for many hours, and repeatedly crossed a beautiful river, you pass over a high chain of mountains at the Puerto de Villareal. You here enjoy fine

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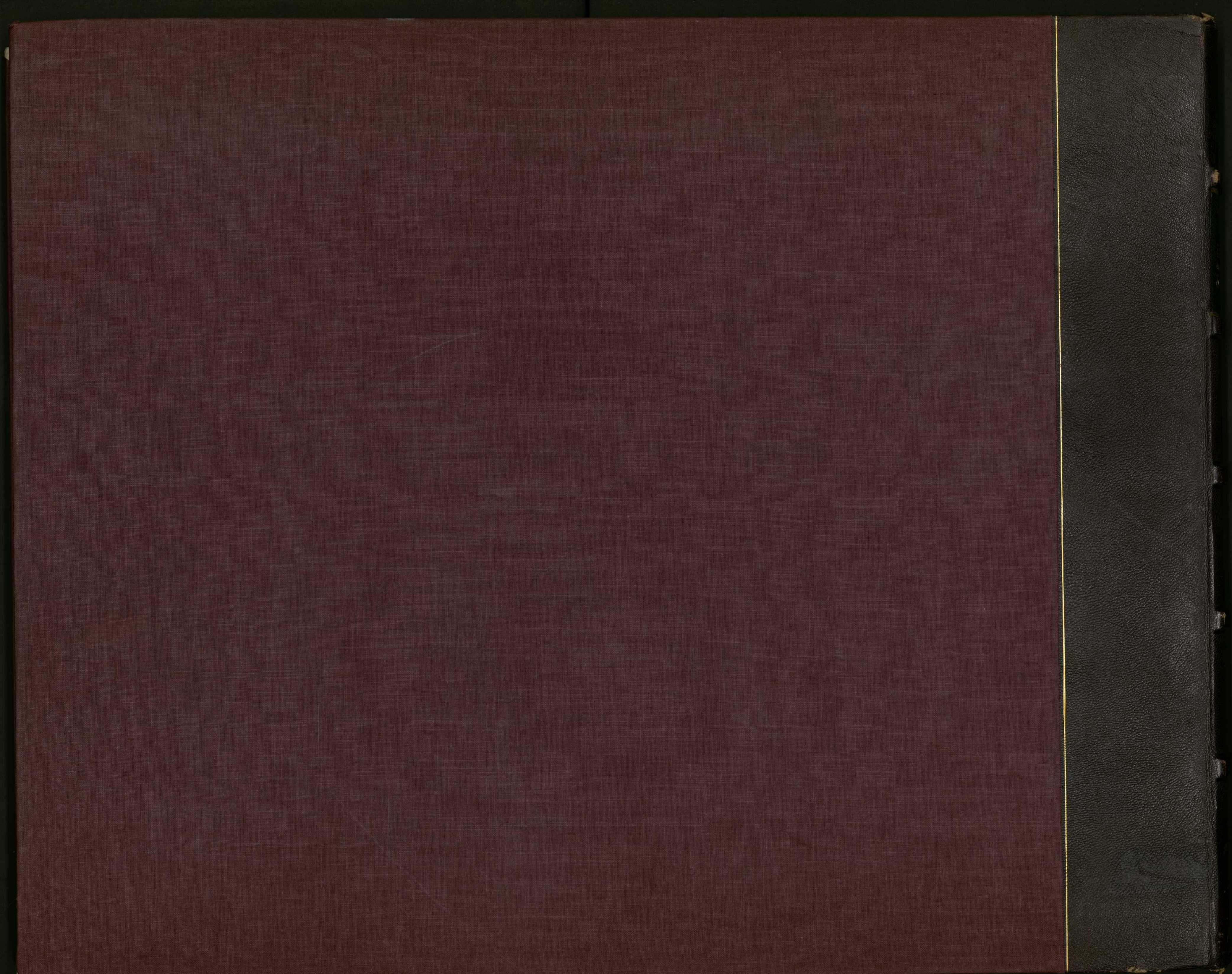
but not extensive views of a mountainous well-wooded country; and then descend into the charming valley of Tolosa, a large town, which, like all those you pass through, swarms with inhabitants. The landscape on every side is divine, and approaches the nearest to those of la Cava in the kingdom of Naples, or of Tivoli in the Roman state, of any in Spain.

Farther on the summit of a woody hill overlooks the Bay of Biscay, Fontarabia, Andaye, the course of the Bidassoa, the province of Labour in France, and a prodigious range of the

Pyrenees. A more delightful prospect never existed, even in the divine imagination of Claude Lorrain.

The Bidassoa is a broad clear stream, that issues with great majesty out of a valley among the mountains, and, separating Spain from France, flows through the marshes into the sea. The water is frequently so low, that carriages may pass through the river; but a ferry-boat is stationed here for the convenience of the communication between the two kingdoms.

THE END.



SWINBURNE

TOUR
THROUGH
SPAIN

1806